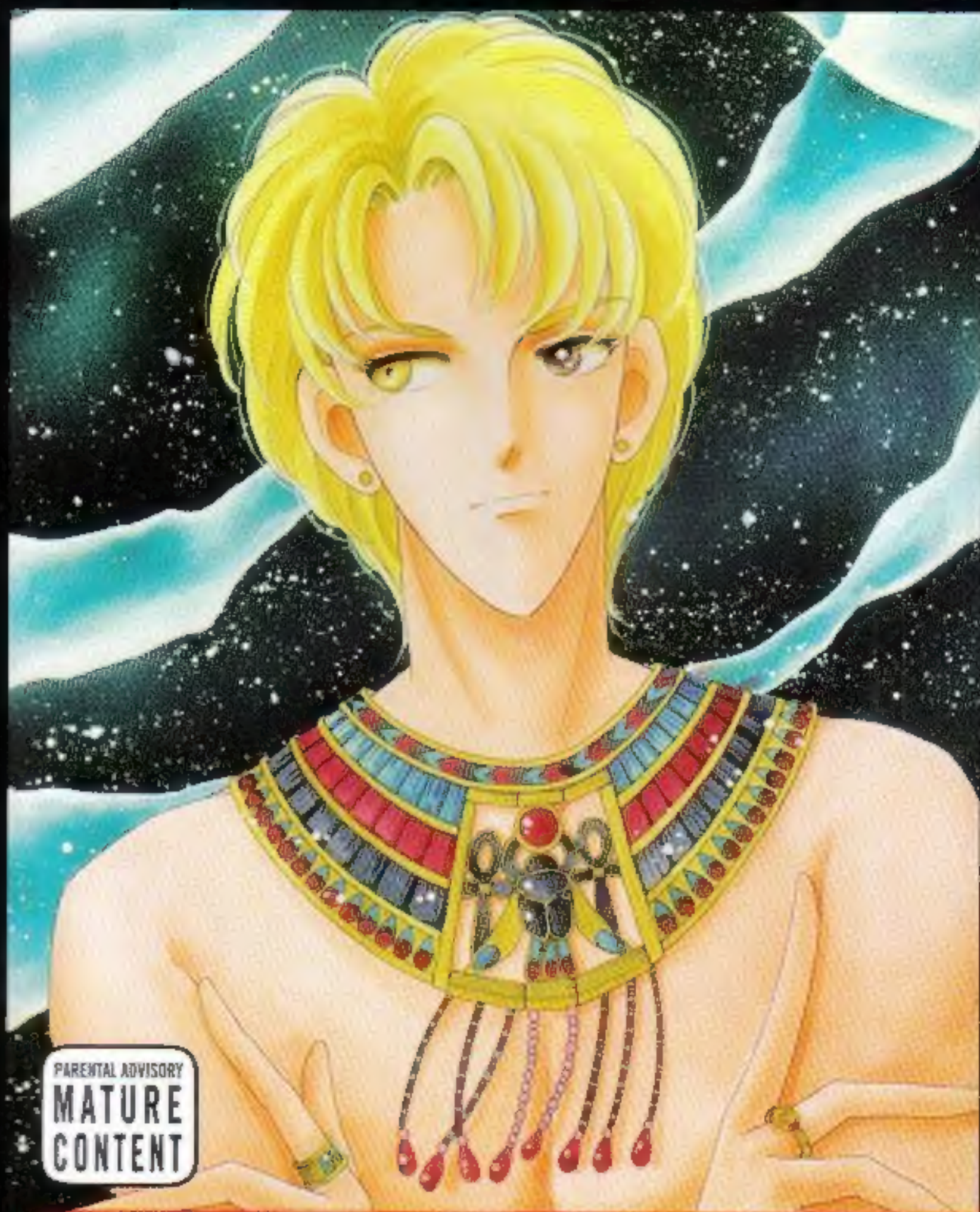


RED RIVER



PARENTAL ADVISORY
MATURE
CONTENT

18

story and art by

Chie Shinohara



I MEAN,
ARE YOU
SURE IT'S
USER
RANGES?

ARE
YOU
SURE
ABOUT
THAT?

RANGES
IS
COMMANDING
THE
EGYPTIAN
FORCEST?



YES,
MA'AM!

WE HAVE
CONFIRMED
THAT...

...IT IS
INDEED
THAT VERY
PERSONAGE.





VERY
DISTURB-
ING
NEWS!

SHE CAN
SAY THAT
AGAIN!
CLEVER
RUSES
MIGHT FOOL
OTHER
COMMANDERS,
BUT...

...IF
RAMSES IS
COMMAND-
ING THE
EGYPTIAN
FORCES,
I HAVE NO
CHANCE OF
DEFENDING
UGARTI!

ONE THAT
WOULD HOLD
UP AGAINST
THE EGYPTIAN
MAIN UNIT
WOULD
REQUIRE FOUR
TO FIVE DAYS,
ISHTAR.

RHISAFI

HOW LONG
WILL IT TAKE
TO BUILD A
DEFENSIVE
LINE?

I WOULD
SAY TWO
DAYS...

HOW LONG
WILL IT TAKE
FOR THEM TO
GET HERE
FROM THE
ORONTES
RIVER?

CONTACT
PRINCE
TELIPNI
AND ASK
HIM TO SEND
REINFORCE-
MENTS
IMMEDIATELY!

KHALES
IS THE
NEAREST
HITTITE
FORTRESS
CITY,
RIGHT?

WE DON'T
HAVE
ENOUGH
TIME!

WHAT CAN I
DO AGAINST
RAMSES?

SEND A
MESSENGER
TO HATTUSA
AS WELL!

I REFUSE
TO LEAVE!

YES
MA'AM.

MY
MAIN
UNIT IS
STATIONED
THERE!

I'LL
SEND A
MESSENGER
TO
KARKENISH,
TOO.

HADI...

...TELL
THE UNIT
LEADERS
TO
EVACUATE
THE
VILLAGERS.

I HOPE
THE HITTITE
EMPIRE
VANISHES!

TAKE HIS
EXCELLENCY
TO A SAFE
LOCATION.

DON'T
YOU
TOUCH
ME!

YOUR
EXCELLENCY,
AS I'VE
TOLD YOU
REPEATEDLY,
OUR KING
MURSHILI II DID
NOT KILL YOUR
DAUGHTER.

I WANT TO
WITNESS
THE
ANNIHILA-
TION OF
THE HITTITE
TROOPS!

DON'T
TOUCH
ME!

YOU
MUST LEAVE
IMMEDIATELY.



...A KING
CAN'T LET
HIS COUNTRY
FALL INTO
RUIN WHILE
HE WALLOWS
IN GRIEF!

I AGREE! I
UNDERSTAND
THE SORROW
HE FEELS,
BUT...

WASH!
I PITY
LIGART FOR
HAVING
SUCH A
FOOLISH
KING.

AND THAT
LEAVES
LITTLE HOPE
THAT
PRINCESS
ENDRA IS
STILL
ALIVE.



NAKIA
WOULDN'T
HESITATE
TO KILL
HER!



PRINCESS
YURI?



KING
ARHALBA
MUST HAVE
LOVED HIS
DAUGHTER
VERY MUCH.

IT'S NAKIA
WHO TOOK
CALLOUS
ADVANTAGE
OF IT.



IT WILL
TAKE FIVE
DAYS TO
ESTABLISH
A PROPER
DEFENSE,
BUT ONLY
TWO DAYS
FOR THE
EGYPTIANS
TO REACH
HERE.

THREE DAYS...

...SEVENTY-TWO
HOURS...
THAT'S HOW
LONG WE
HAVE TO DELAY
THE EGYPTIAN
ADVANCE IF WE
HOPE TO HOLD
UGARIT.

RIGHT
NOW, IT'S
VITAL WE
DIRECT
ALL OUR
EFFORTS
TO
DEFENDING
UGARIT.

BUT
DEALING
WITH
NAKIA
WILL
HAVE
TO
WAIT.

THAT'S
TRUE.

I
CAN'T...

...ALLOW
THE
EGYPTIANS
A TRIUMPH
SO EARLY
IN THE
CAMPAIGN.





GET
MOVING,
EVERYONE!

THE
EGYPTIANS
WILL BE
HERE
SOON!



EVERYONE
IN THE
CASTLE
MUST
EVACUATE!

WE HAVE
ASSIGNED
HITTE
SOLDIERS
TO
ESCORT
YOU TO
SAFETY!



GRAB



STAY
FOR A BIT.
WE'LL SHOW
YOU A VERY
NICE TIME.

HOW
NICE!



HEY!
THIS IS NO
TIME FOR
FOOLISH-
NESS!

I BET
YOU'RE
A HIGH-
RANKING
OFFICER.



WE'RE
HERE TO
LOOK
AFTER THE
SOLDIERS
WHO WILL
BE
ARRIVING.

OH,
COME
NOW,
YOU
KNOW
WHY.

SOLDIERS
ALWAYS
GRAVE THE
COMFORT OF
WOMEN
DURING
WARTIME, AM
I RIGHT?



WHY
ARE YOU
WOMEN
EVEN
HERE?

YOU MUST
EVACUATE
NOW OR
YOU'LL BE
KILLED!

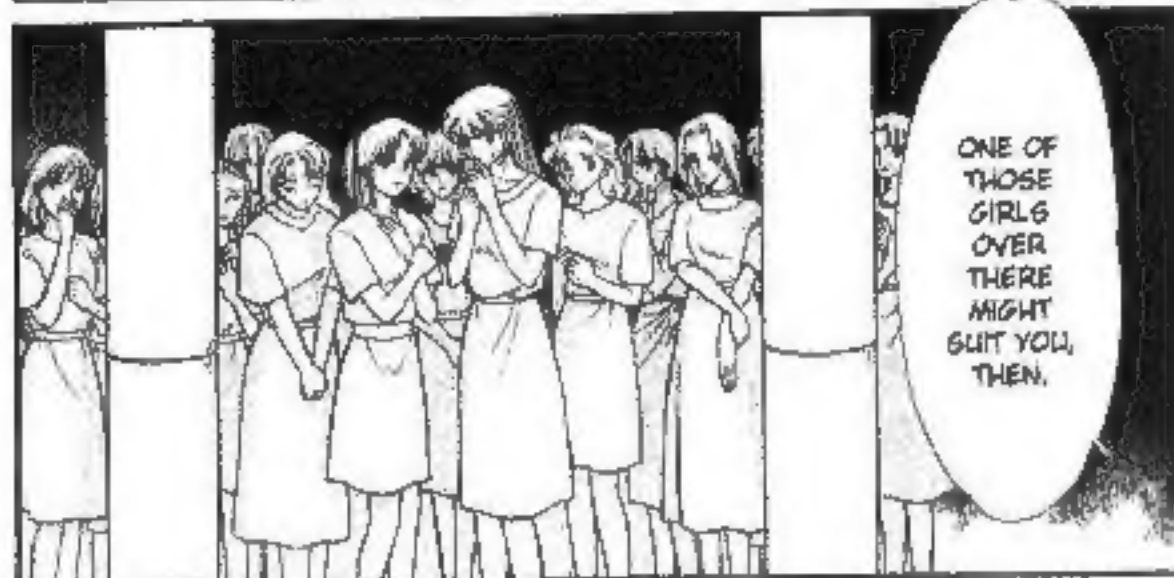


PERHAPS
YOU'D
LIKE
SOMEONE
LESS...
EXPERI-
ENCED?

OH
DEAR,
NOT
INTER-
ESTED?

SHOVE

...



ONE OF
THOSE
GIRLS
OVER
THERE
MIGHT
SUIT YOU,
THEN.

THIRTY
PROFESSIONAL
PROSTITUTES
AND ABOUT
TWENTY
AMATEURS.

WE WILL
SATISFY YOU,
ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER, I
GUARANTEE.

HOW
MANY OF
YOU ARE
THERE?

WOULD
YOU LIKE TO
EXAMINE
THE GOODS
BEFORE
YOU
CHOOSE?



...AND,
IN ANY
EVENT, OUR
MEN
DON'T
NEED
YOUR
SER-
VICES.

OUR
COM-
MANDER-
IN-CHIEF
DOESN'T
APPROVE
OF THIS
SORT OF
THING...

PUT YOUR
CLOTHES
BACK ON
AND GET
READY TO
LEAVE.

STOP IT.
THERE'S
NO NEED.

WELL,
AREN'T
YOU
HARD TO
PLEASE.



YES,
ISHTAR.

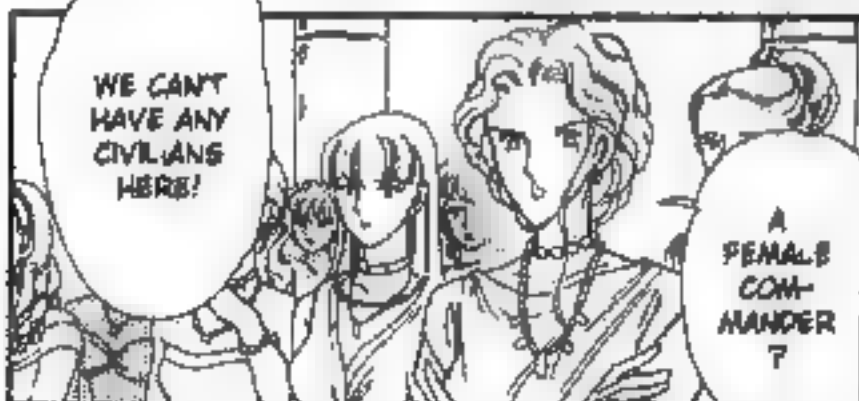
I SUPPOSE
KING ARMAIBA
BROUGHT THEM
HERE TO REDUCE
THE SOLDIERS'
READINESS.

THIS
PLACE WILL
BECOME A
BATTLEFIELD
ONCE THE
EGYPTIANS
ARRIVE.



WHAT
?

THERE
ARE FIFTY..
UM..
WORKING
WOMEN
HERE?



WE CAN'T
HAVE ANY
CIVILIANS
HERE!

A
FEMALE
COM-
MANDER
?



HUH?

LISTEN
UP,
SWEETIE.

LET ME
GIVE YOU
THE LAY
OF THE
LAND.



SOME WOMEN ARE SOLD INTO PROSTITUTION WHEN THEIR ARE INVADERS. HAVE NO OTHER RECOURSE THAN TO WORK AS PROSTITUTES IN ORDER TO FEED THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

BUT IT'S NOT FOR EVERYONE.

THAT'S MY SMART COMMANDER

VERY WELL THOSE WHO WISH TO STAY MAY DO SO

WARRIOR

I EXPECTED WOMEN OF YOUR PROFESSION TO BE MUCH GLOOMIER

WELL, PERSONALLY, I LOVE MY WORK

FRANKLY MOST PROSTITUTES HATE THE

BUT AS FOR THE REST OF US, THIS IS OUR JOB, OUR LIVELIHOOD

THOSE GIRLS WHO WERE FORCIBLY BROUGHT HERE CAN BE SENT HOME

SENDING US HOME WOULD LEAVE US WORSE OFF THAN LETTING US STAY.

I DON'T

IS THAT SO?

AND IN OUR RACKET SOLDIERS AWAY FROM HOME MAKE THE BEST CUSTOMERS

MEN NEED WOMEN FROM TIME TO TIME IT'S JUST A FACT, KITTEN.

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT

OH! I DON'T VISIT THEM MYSELF, ISHTAR!

MOST ARMIES DO TACITLY PERMIT THEIR SOLDIERS TO VISIT BROTHELS.

RUS. RUSAFAT

UM

IF YOU DO,
I PROMISE
YOU'LL
REGRET IT!

As
if
we
would!

We
won't,
Ishtar!

YOU
WILL
NOT
MISTREAT
ANY
WOMAN,
FRIEND OR
FOE!

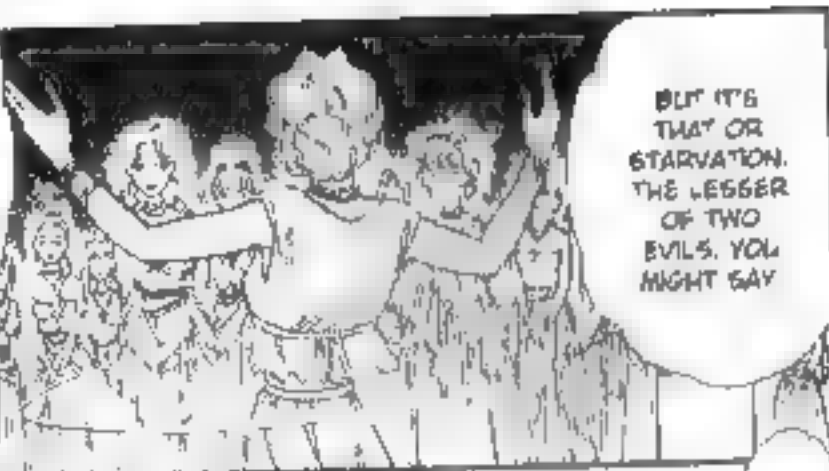
ALL
RIGHT
MEN,
LISTEN
UP!



WE
TRY TO
MAKE THE
BEST
OF IT
RIGHT,
EVERYONE?

THAT
BEING
THE
CASE

BUT IT'S
THAT OR
STARVATION.
THE LESSER
OF TWO
EVILS. YOU
MIGHT SAY



THEY
MAKE ME
REALIZE
HOW LUCKY
I'VE BEEN.

THAT IS,
IF I HADN'T
BEEN KILLED
BY NAKIA

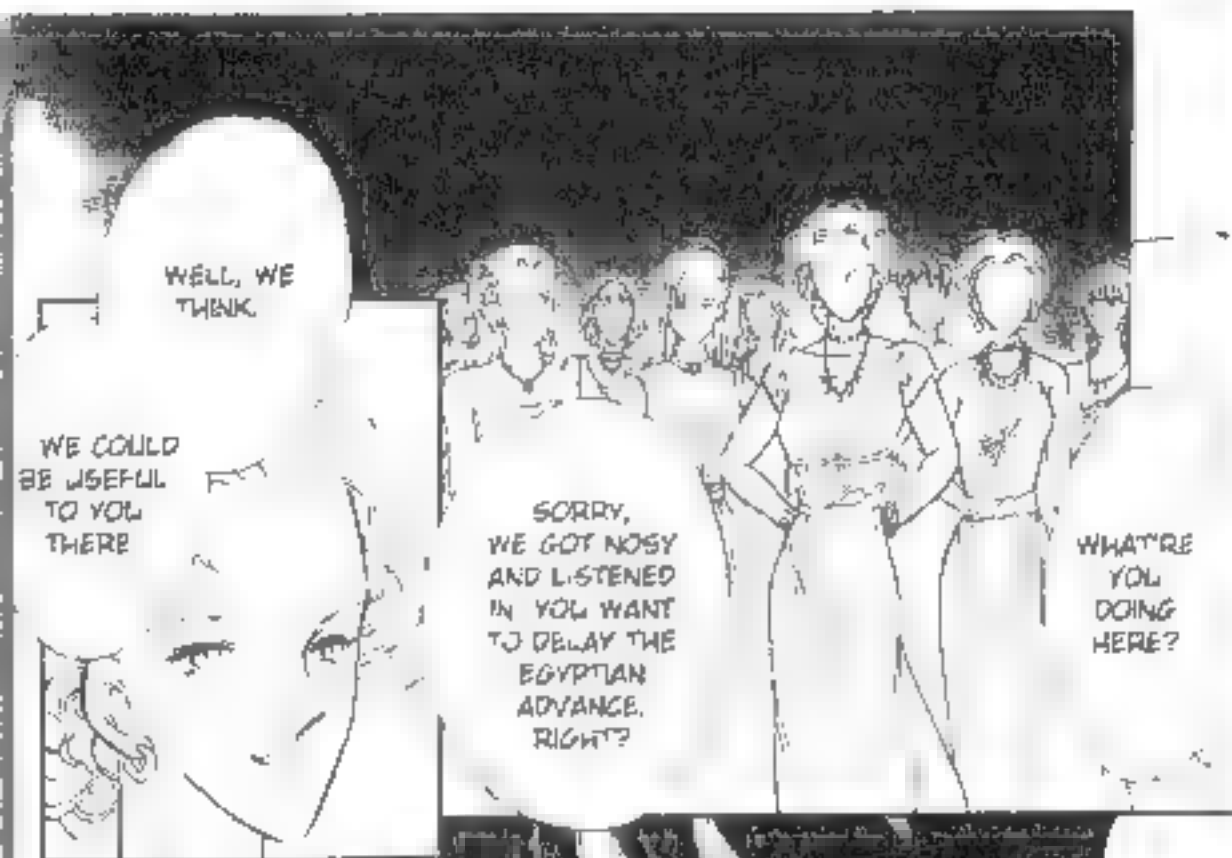
IF I HADN'T MET
KAIL WHEN I FIRST
ARRIVED IN THIS
WORLD, I MIGHT
HAVE BECOME ONE
OF THEM.

WE ARE HERE
TO DEFEND OUR
ALLIES, NOT
BRUTALIZE THE
INNOCENT!

LET'S BE
CLEAR

DEAL AS YOU
MUST WITH
ENEMY
SOLDIERS!

BUT TAKE NO
LIBERTIES
WITH WOMEN
AND CHILDREN!



WELL, WE THINK

WE COULD BE USEFUL TO YOU THERE

SORRY, WE GOT NOSY AND LISTENED IN YOU WANT TO DELAY THE EGYPTIAN ADVANCE, RIGHT?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?



BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO TO SLOW THE EGYPTIANS?

USEFUL? HOW?

I MEAN, I APPRECIATE YOUR WANTING TO HELP



LET'S JUST SAY THAT WHATEVER THEIR NATION, MEN ARE MEN.

AND WITH THE HELP OF OUR COLLEAGUES FROM NEARBY TOWNS, WE CAN MANAGE TO KEEP THE EGYPTIAN SOLDIERS DISTRACTED FOR A WHILE

THAT'S BEST NOT DISCUSSED IN MIXED COMPANY

WE WOULDN'T WANT TO SHOCK A CLITE LIKE YOU.

EH?



NOW TO TACTICS.

OKAY



ANYONE HAVE ANY IDEAS HOW WE MIGHT DELAY RAMSES?

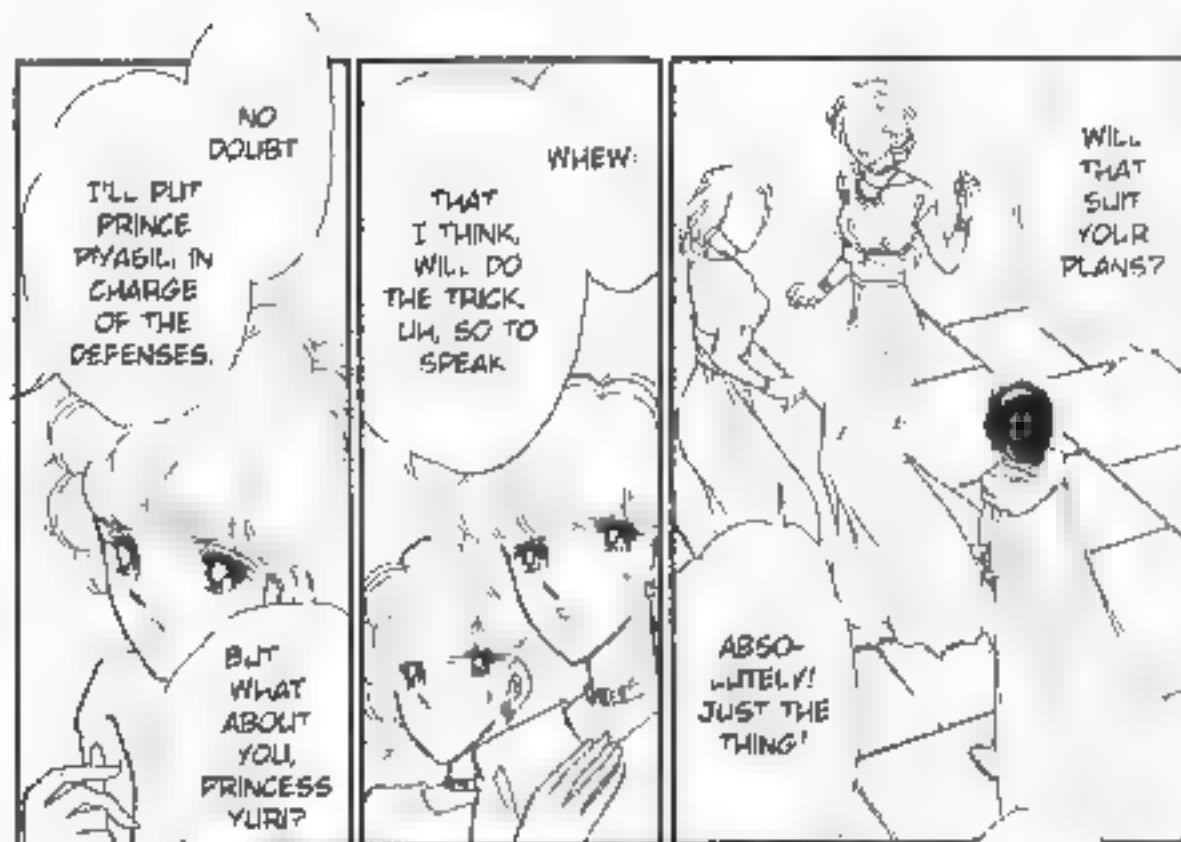
SIGH.

WE HAVE SO LITTLE TIME, AND SO MUCH TO DO.



WELL...

WE HAVE A PROPOSAL YOU MIGHT LIKE TO CONSIDER





WELL
OKAY
IF YOU
MUST

ONE OF
THE UNIT
LEADERS
CAN DO
THAT!

I'M YOUR
DEPUTY!
I MUST
COME!



SHOULDN'T
GET TOO
CLOSE TO
HIM. BUT
WE MUST
DELAY THE
EGYPTIANS.

RAMSES
IS HERE,
AND I.

AS A
COVER,
NINNY

YOU'LL
BE A
EUNUCH
ESCORT

WHY?



HUH?

WE NEED
SOME
INSURANCE.

HE MAY NOT
ALLOW HIS
TROOPS TO
STAY IN
BEIDA FOR
THREE
DAYS.

NOTHING CAN
BE LEFT TO
CHANCE
WHEN IT
COMES TO
RANGES.



THAT WILL
CERTAINLY
SET THEM
BACK MILI-
TARILY

WHILE I'M
IN BEIDA,
I'M GOING
TO...

... UNTIL THE
EGYPTIANS'
HORSES
DURING THE
NIGHT



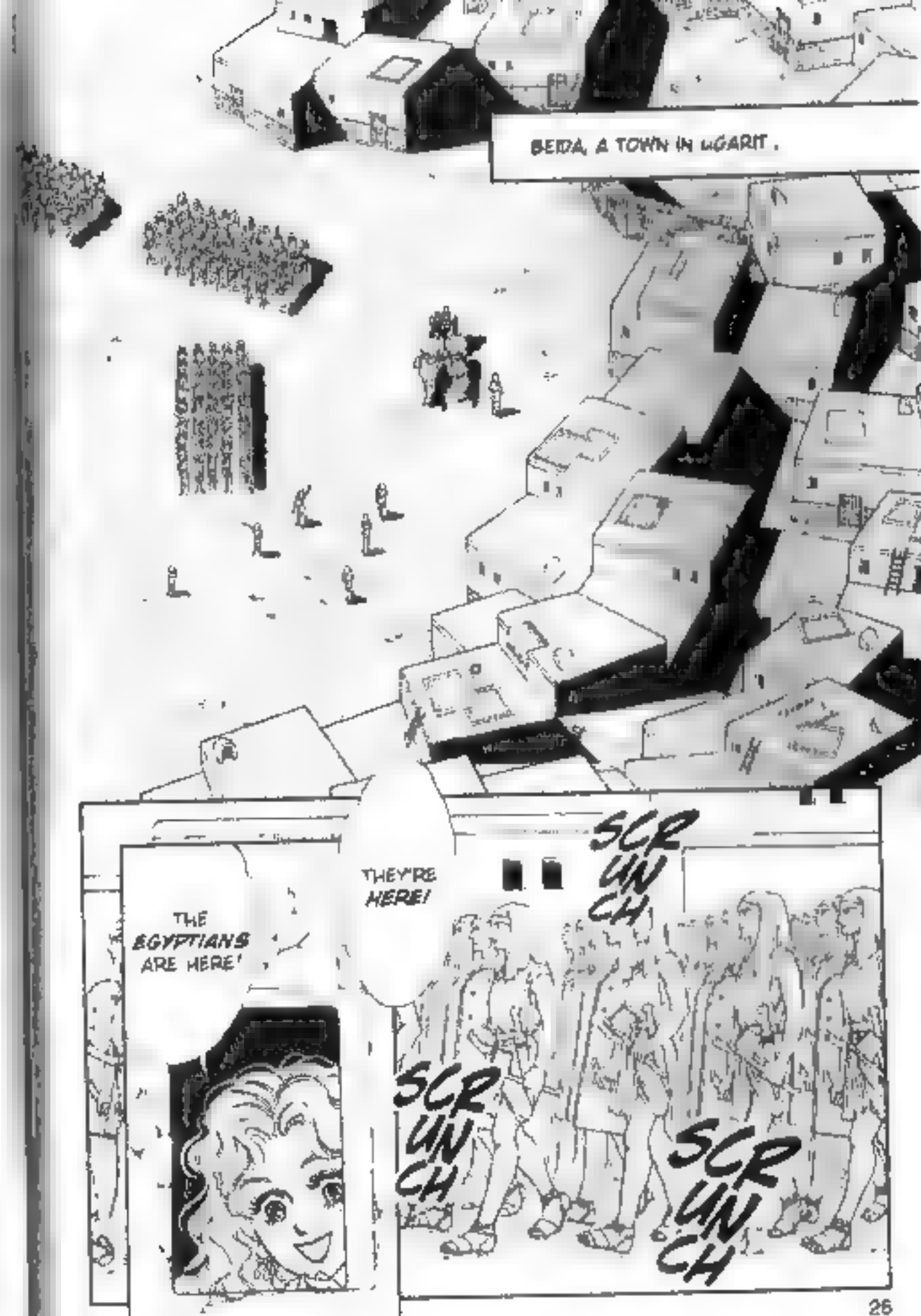
ME TOO.
ISHTAR

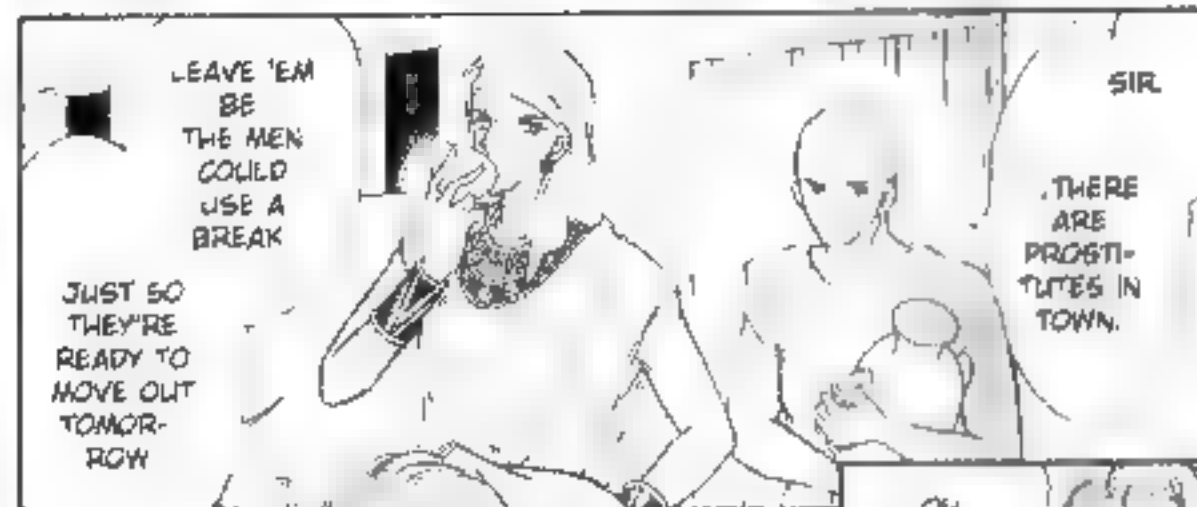
YOU'VE GOT
HIM THERE!
COUNT US
IN!

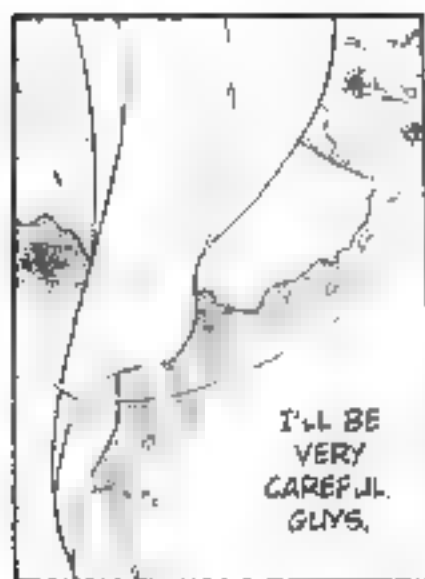
DISGUISED
AS
PROSTITUTES?

WE CAN
SEND
SOLDIERS
TO DO
THAT!

YOU WILL
REMAIN
HERE TO
COMMAND
OUR
TROOPS,
RUSAPA.



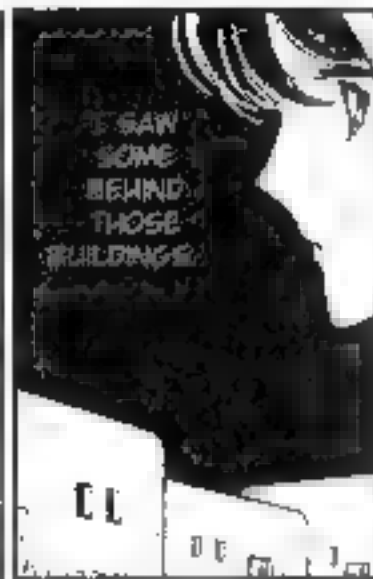




I'LL BE
VERY
CAREFUL
GUYS.



DON'T GET
CARRIED
AWAY!



I SAW
SOME
BEHIND
THOSE
BUILDINGS

EL



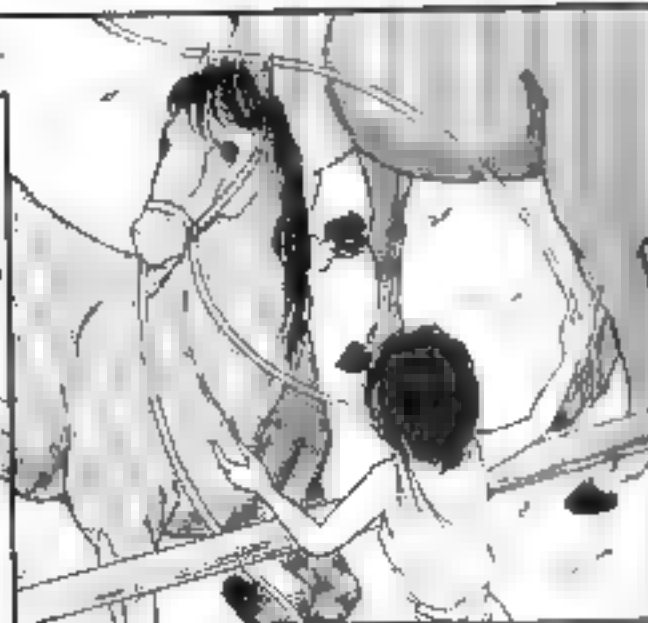
THERE
ARE SO
MANY
ACTUALLY
TOO MANY
WOMEN
HERE!



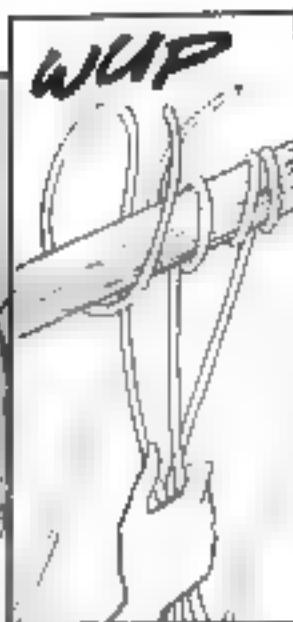
WHAT'S
GOING ON
HERE?



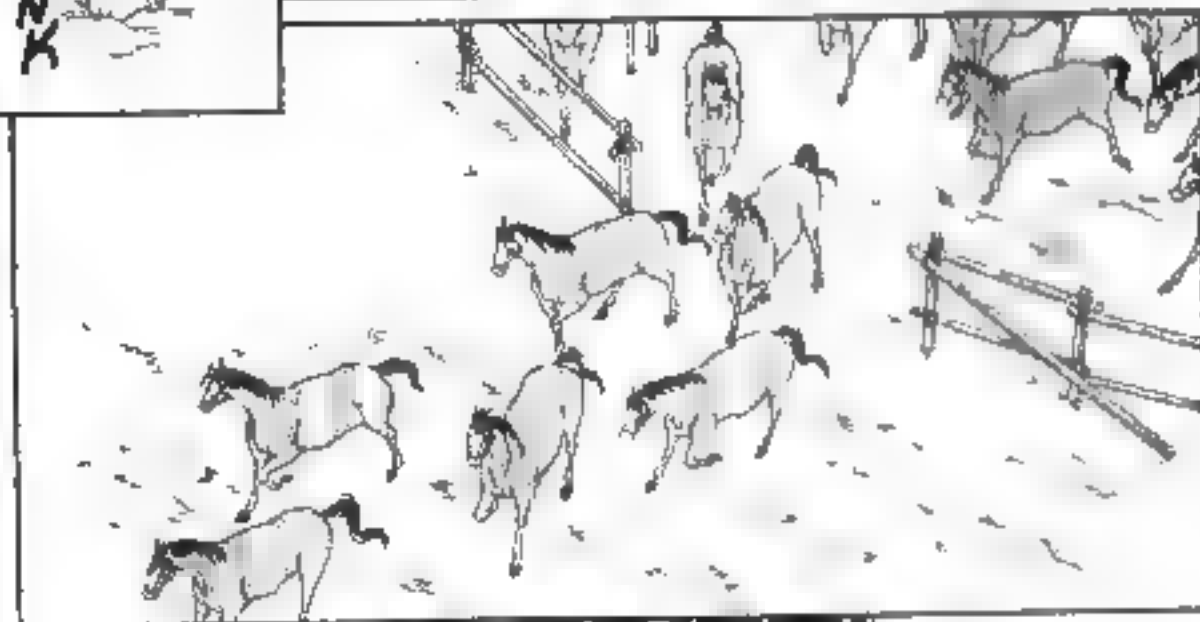
PLONK



SUP



WUP



I'LL FREE
A FEW
MORE



THAT'S
FORTY
BUT I'VE
STILL
GOT
TIME



YIKES!

OH,
EXCUSE
ME

U
A



THEY
MAY HAVE
CONGREGATED
FROM OTHER
VILLAGES,
BUT THIS IS
STILL VERY
GOOD.

WHY WOULD
A TOWN TOWN
LIKE THIS
HAVE SO
MANY
PROSTITUTES?



AND EVERY
HORSE I FREE
SETS THE
EGYPTIANS
FURTHER
BACK

THERE'S
STILL
SOME TIME
BEFORE
DAWN.







RAMSES!

MOST
FAVORED
CONCUBINE,
IN A PLACE
LIKE THIS!

I NEVER
EXPECTED
TO MEET
THE HITTITE
COMMANDER-
IN-CHIEF
AND MURSI!
IT'S.

WELL
WELL
WELL







SNATCH
THIS
TINY
TO

TAKE
YOU FOR
MY OWN,
AND DO
IT

WITH
OUT A
LOT OF
UNNECES-
SARY
PUSS.



DON'T
YOU WANT
ME TAKEN
PRISONER?

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

NOT
REALLY
LIGHT
SCARCELY
INTERESTS
ME

I'D
RATHER



NOT TO
SEIZE,
WOULDN'T
YOU SAY?

THIS
IS AN
OPPOR-
TUNITY I
WOULD BE
FOOLISH.

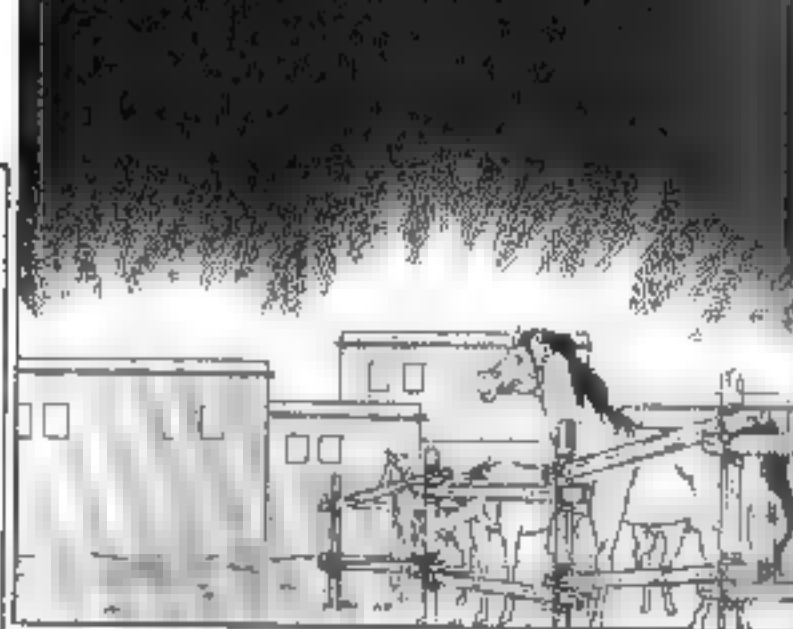
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
UP TO, BUT I
IMAGINE YOU
DON'T WANT
YOUR
PRESENCE
REVEALED

DON'T
FORGET
YOU'RE
IN A
TOWN MY
FORCES
OCCUPY

DO
YOU
WANT
ME TO
SHOUT?

NO!

STOP





ANY MAN WHO
ASPIRES
TO RULE A
COUNTRY
WOULD
WANT YOU
MORE THAN
A KING'S
CROWN.

I
ONCE
SAID YOU
WERE
BORN
TO BE A
KING'S
WIFE

I'M MORE
AMBITIOUS
THAN THAT
I'D NEVER
FORGIVE
MYSELF IF
I LET THIS
GOLDEN
OPPORTU-
NITY SLIP
THROUGH
MY
FINGERS

I HAVE
NO
INTEREST
IN
FIGHTING
FOR A
REMOTE
TERRITORY
OR
MAKING
SHORT-
TERM
GAINS.



BE
QUIET

WHAT'RE
YOU
PLANNING
TO DO?

DO YOU
WANT MY
SOLDIERS
TO KNOW
YOU'RE
HERE?



EVERY
COUNTRY
WANTS
CONTROL
OF THIS
TOWN!

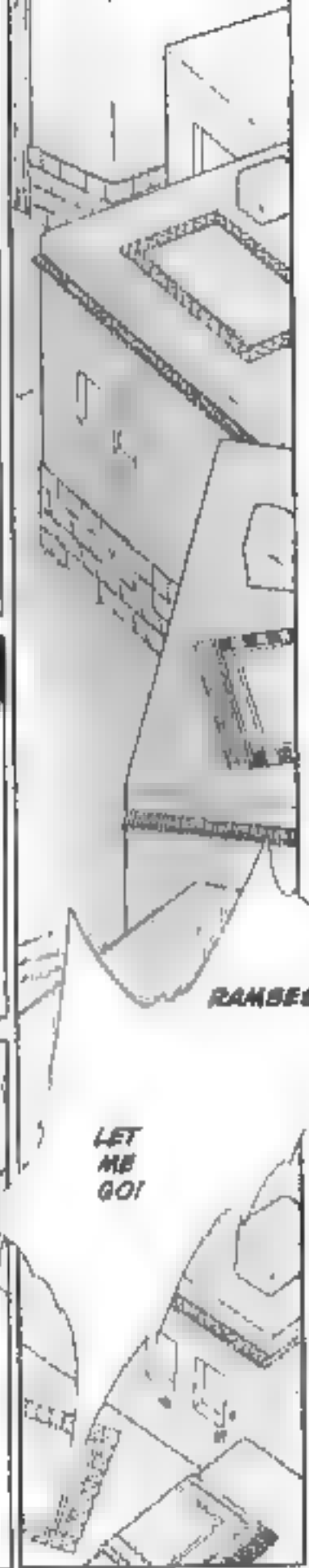
ECON-
OMICALLY
AND MILI-
TARILY!

YOU MUST
KNOW HOW
REGION-
ALLY
IMPORTANT
WEART IS.



WELL, THAT
MAKES YOU
EVEN MORE
CHARMING

YOUR
SHORTCOMING
IS THAT YOU
DON'T KNOW
YOUR OWN
VALUE.



RAMSES!

LET
ME
GO!

LET
HER
GO!

SH

UM

WITHOUT
BLOOD-
SHED, IN
FACT,
WHICH
SURELY
IS.

G
A
S
P

WHAT
MURSIL
II
WOULD
WISH

ISN'T
YOUR
MISSION
HERE TO
PROTECT
HARIT
FROM
US?

GIVE IN
TO ME,
AND
YOU'LL
HAVE
ACCOM-
PLISHED
THAT

WHAT
WAS
MURSIL II
THINKING.

SENDING
YOU TO
THE FRONT
LINES?

STOP
IT!

I'D RATHER
DIE THAN BE
YOUR
WOMAN!



AFTER
CRUSHING
YOUR
FORCES!

HE'S
RIGHT!

PRINCESS YURI:
WILL BECOME
OUR QUEEN.



WHY
MURSILI, NO
DOUBT QUITE
RELUCTANTLY,
SENT HIS
BELOVED TO
THE FRONT.

NOW I
UNDER-
STAND.

I ALSO SEE
YOUR QUEEN
DOWAGER'S
MACHINATIONS
BEHIND ALL
THIS

I
SEE



MY
RESOLVE TO
KEEP YURI
WITH ME

BUT
THAT ONLY
STRENGTH-
ENS.



SHE
IS TO
BECOME
OUR
QUEEN!

KEEP
YOUR
HANDS
OFF
HER!

PRINCESS
YURI IS
GOING TO
MARRY
OUR
KING!

RUSAFI!

HO HO



DASH

FOLLOW
MY
VOICE!

THERE ARE
HITTITE
AGENTS IN
TOWN!

SOLDIERS!

TAKE
TO THE
STREETS!

WUP



YOU WILL
NOT

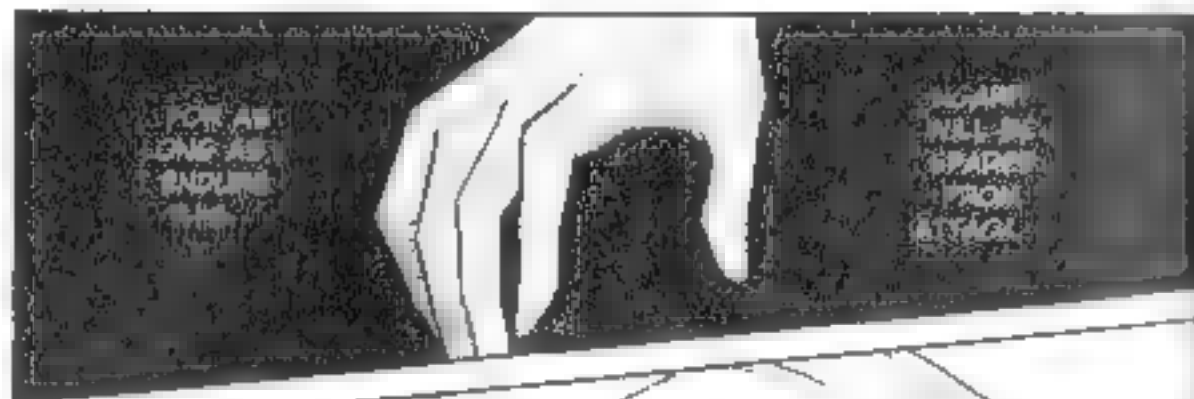
LET
PRINCESS
YURI GO,
NOW

OR I WILL
SLAY YOU
RIGHT HERE!

WELL,
WELL

YOU
SURE
HAVE
STOLEN
YOUR
SHARE OF
HEARTS,
YURI.





FOR AS
LONG AS
ENDURE
THE

AM

FLINCH

YOUR
BODY HAS
BECOME
MUCH
MORE
SENSITIVE,
HASN'T IT

I SUPPOSE
I'VE THAT
SCOUNDREL
MURSIL II
TO THANK
FOR THAT

AS
LONG
AS



NO ONE
WILL
INTERRUPT
US THIS
TIME

SO IT'S
JUST YOU
AND ME

YOUR
KING IS IN
MATTUSA,
IF I'M NOT
MISTAKEN.





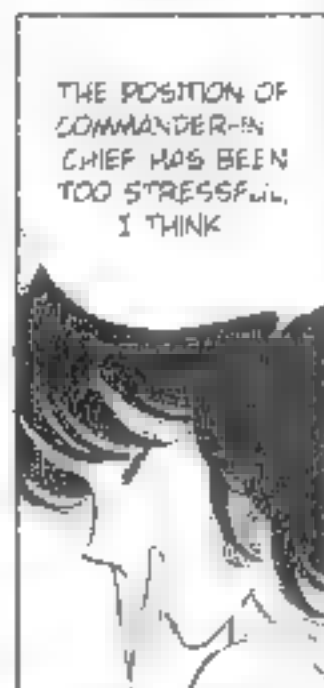
HEY, YOU
WEREN'T
KIDDING!

KOFF KOFF

WM

HWAAGH.

KOFF



THE POSITION OF
COMMANDER-IN-
CHIEF HAS BEEN
TOO STRESSFUL.
I THINK



I'VE BEEN
UNDER THE
WEATHER
FOR QUITE
SOME TIME



DOES THAT
MEAN MY
TOUCH
MAKES YOU
NAUSEOUS?

GRUMP.

NO,
IT'S NOT
THAT



I'VE LOST
MY APPETITE
EVEN MY
FAVORITE
FOODS.

JUST DON'T
SEEM TO TASTE
RIGHT ANYMORE.
I'M A MESS

I'VE
BEEN
NAUSEATED
AND.



GIVE
UP
YURI.

RESCUE
IS NOT
POSSIBLE
THIS
TIME

NOOOO!



UGH!



UUGH



YOU
ARE?
BUT



I FEEL
SICK.

I'M GOING
TO BE
SICK!

HLH?





I'M
PREGNANT?

WITH
KAIL'S
BABY?



WH



ABOUT
ISHTAR?
IS SHE
BACK?

I HAVE
NEWS
YOUR
HIGHNESS!



BUT
WHAT?
WHAT'S
THE
NEWS?

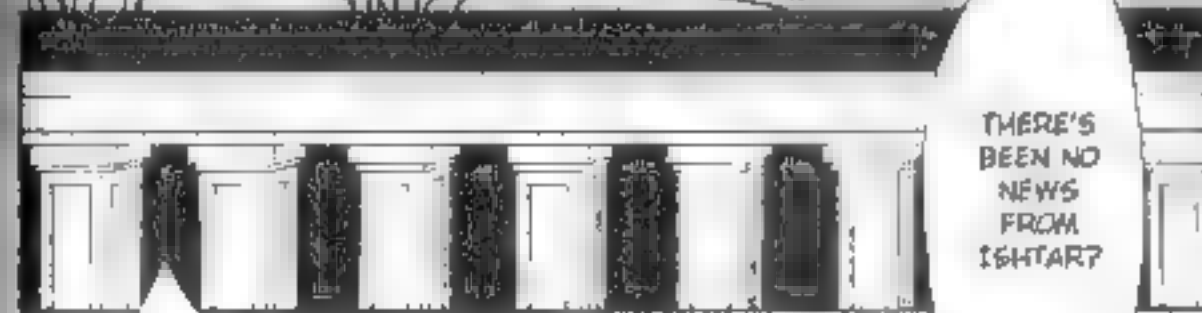
NO
SIR,
BUT

MAL!!

WELL
ARRIVALS
FROM
HATTUSA.



THE KING'S PALACE, UGARIT...



THERE'S
BEEN NO
NEWS
FROM
ISHTAR?



I SHOULDN'T
HAVE LET
HER GO IN
THE FIRST
PLACE!

PACE

PACE
PACE
PACE

THE
SUN
WILL BE
UP
SOON.

SHE
SHOULD BE
BACK BY
NOW



BROTHER
KAILI

I MEAN

...YOUR
MAJESTY!

RIGHT
BUT
TWO
MA

BY THE
WAY
WHERE'S
YURI?



MALI

HOW'RE
OUR
DEFENSES
HOLDING
UP HERE?

I'M GLAD
TO SEE
YOU'RE
ALL
RIGHT!

I DIDN'T
EXPECT YOU
TO ARRIVE
THIS SOON.

I'D JUST
SENT A
MESSENGER
TO HATTUSA
TO—

YOUR
MAJESTY!

PARDON ME
FOR NOT
WELCOMING
YOU AT THE
GATE.

I MET YOUR
MESSENGER
IN KHALES

TRUTH IS,
I LEFT
HATTUSA
ALMOST
AS
SOON.

...AS YURI
HAD SET
OUT ON HER
MISSION.

RR

HIS
MAJESTY
HAS
ARRIVED!

RRRO

HIS MAJESTY
AND HIS
ROYAL
FORCES
HAVE
ARRIVED IN
UGARIT!

H. HIS
MAJESTY IS
HERE!

ROAR

AR

ROAR

I SHOULD'VE DONE WHATEVER IT TOOK TO STOP HER!

I HAVE NO EXCUSE YOUR MAJESTY!

WHAT?!

YURI DISGUISED HERSELF AS A PROSTITUTE AND INFILTRATED THE EGYPTIANS' ENCAMPMENT AT BEIDA?!

MAA...

I AM NOT SURE ANYONE COULD HAVE MYSELF INCLUDED

YOUR MAJESTY!

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SEND

I'M MORTIFIED THAT KING ARHALBA THINKS I WOULD HARM HER

AS FOR YOUR MESSAGE

MY OFFICIALS ARE LOOKING INTO THE MATTER OF PRINCESS ENDRA.

BUT NOW YOU TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION HERE

IT IS MY INCOMPETENCE THAT BROUGHT NOT ONLY ISHTAR

MY APOLOGIES, YOUR MAJESTY!

... YOU'VE ARRIVED A BIT LATE YOUR MAJESTY

WELL, UM

WHAT'S WRONG, MALI?

APOLOGY ACCEPTED. SO, WHERE IS YURI?

KNOWING HOW RECKLESS SHE CAN BE I LEFT HATTUSA SOONER THAN I HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED.



AFTER
THAT YOU
MAY HAVE
MY HEAD!

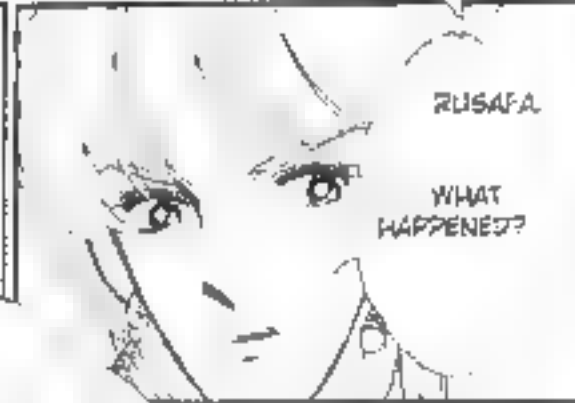
NO, SIR
SHE DID
NOT!

PLEASE
ALLOW ME
TO RETURN
TO BEIDA
AND
RESCUE
HER!



PRINCESS
YURI
WAS

BEEN
CAPTURED
BY THE
EGYPTIANS!



RUSAFU

WHAT
HAPPENED?



WHAT
?!



WHAT?

THERE'S
NEWS!

RUSAFU AND
THE THREE
SISTERS HAVE
RETURNED
FROM BEIDA!



WHERE'S
YURI?

DIDN'T SHE
RETURN
WITH YOU?



HOW DID
IT GO?

I'VE BEEN
INFORMED
OF THE
NATURE OF
YOUR
MISSION,
RUSAFU.

YOUR
MAJESTY!

I HAD NO
IDEA YOU
WERE
HERE!



RAMSES!

YOU PLAGUE
ME AS NO
MAN EVER
HAS!



RAMSES

YURI'S
FALLEN INTO
HIS HANDS
AGAIN?

YES,
SIR.



IT'S AS I
FEARED
YOUR
MAJESTY!

WE TRIED TO
RESCUE HER,
BUT WE
FAILED!
WE'RE SO
SORRY!

ARE
YOU
SURE
ABOUT
THAT?



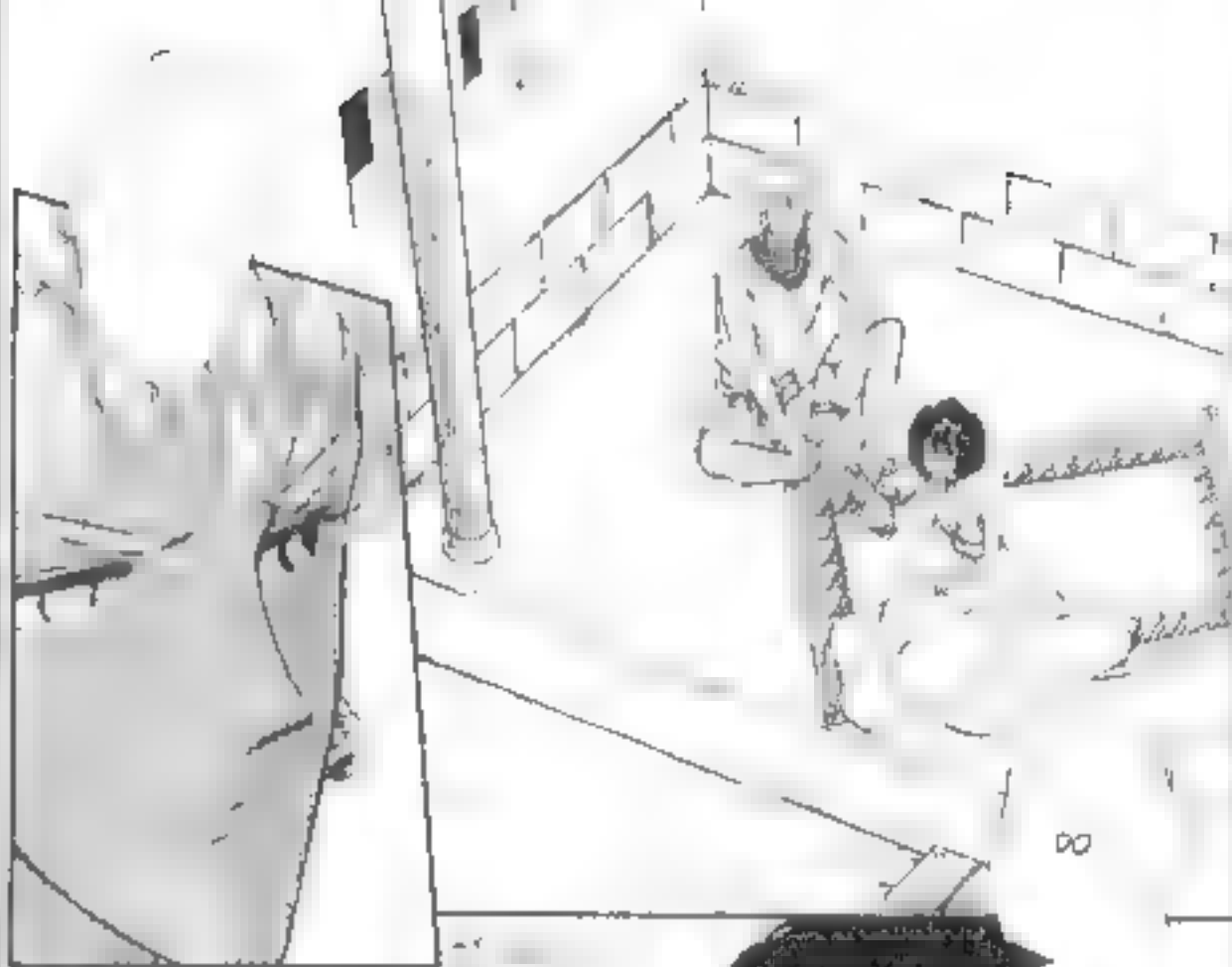
THEY'RE
LED
BY

GENERAL
USER
RAMSES

SIR

RUSAFU
WHO

COMMANDS
THE
EGYPTIANS?



EGYPTIAN ENCAMPMENT,
BEIDA.



AM I
REALLY

WITH KAIL'S
CALL

DO

OK
FOR

HOW
WOULD
I
KNOW?

DO YOU
REALLY
THINK
THAT'S
WHAT THIS
IS?



CONGRATU-
LATIONS?

SEEMS
APPROPRIATE
TO THE
OCCASION

PERHAPS
CONGRATU-
LATIONS
ARE IN
ORDER

MPH



DON'T
WORRY,
YURI.

HMM?



THE
TIMING
OF THE
POLYMER
IS
THE

MORE
AWKWARD!



WHAT A
SITUATION!

I WONDER
HOW KAIL
WILL TAKE
THE
NEWS?

WILL THIS
COMPROMISE
HIS WIFE?

WILL THIS
COMPROMISE
HIS WIFE?

HOW CAN I
MAKE YOU
UNDERSTAND
THAT?

RAMSES.

IT DOESN'T
MATTER THAT
YOU'RE
PREGNANT
AND THAT I
WON'T BE
ABLE TO
INVADE
EGYPT

I STILL
WANT YOU.

EXCUSE
ME?

I WILL
MAKE A
GOOD
FATHER.

HAVE NO
FEARS
FOR
YOUR
CHILD.

THIS IS
MURBILI IT'S
BABY!

YOU'RE
NOT THE
FATHER!

I HAVE
NO
PROBLEM
WITH
THAT

ARE YOU
SERIOUS
?!

I ASSURE
YOU, I AM.

AND
WILL
SURELY
GROW INTO
EITHER A
POWERFUL
WARRIOR OR
A BEAUTIFUL
WOMAN.

WELL,
OF
COURSE
IT IS.





BY
SHIP?

DON'T
THINK YOU
CAN GET
AWAY
FROM ME

IT
WILL BE
A MUCH
EASIER
WAY FOR
YOU TO
TRAVEL

I'LL BE
TAKING
YOU TO
EGYPT
BY
SHIP

IT'S
ABSURD
!

MUST EGYPT
MERELY SNAP
AT ITS HEELS
WHILE OUR
OWN
DOMESTIC
AFFAIRS ARE
IN CHAOS?

UNDER THE
LEADERSHIP
OF MURSHIL
II, THE
HITTITE
EMPIRE IS
CAPABLE
OF CON-
QUERING
GREAT
NATIONS.

THERE-
FORE.

GENERAL
RAMSES

ENC
SIR

WE'RE
GOING
HOME

N. NO!

I'M NOT
COMING WITH
YOU!

I'LL SHOW
YOU THE
NILE ON THE
WAY, YURI!

AND THE
QUICKEST WAY
BACK TO EGYPT
IS BY SHIP.

THEY CAN REACH
THEIR CAPITAL,
THEBES, IN
SHORT ORDER
VIA THE NILE

NOW THAT
HE'S GOT
YOU,
RAMSES
WILL PULL
HIS TROOPS
OUT

EXCUSE
ME,
YOUR
MAJESTY!
BUT
HOW
CAN
YOU BE
SURE?

RAMSES
HAS
CAP-
TURED
A GREAT
PRIZE

HE WON'T
RISK
LOSING
IT

MITTANNAMWA,
SHUBAS,
YOU'LL HELP
MAL DEFEND
THE CASTLE!

KASH
RUSABA,
FOLLOW
ME!

Y YES,
SIR!

THE HITTITE ENCAMPMENT IN UGARIT.

LISTEN
UP!

SHUT
DOWN ALL
ROUTES
FROM BEIDA
TO PORT
BYBLOS

PORT
BYBLOS IS
IN THE
OPPOSITE
DIRECTION!

BUT
SIR,

AREN'T THE
EGYPTIANS
PLANNING TO
INVADE
UGARIT?

DO WE
NEED TO BE
IN SUCH A
HURRY?

WE CAN'T
GO ANY
FASTER, SIR!
WE DON'T
HAVE ENOUGH
HORSES!

HURRY
UP!

WE MUST
GET TO
BYBLOS
TODAY!

BESIDES,
THE HITTITES
AREN'T YET
AWARE
WE'RE
WITHDRAW-
ING!

SIR!
I LOOK
AT THAT!

AM I
REALLY
BEING
TAKEN TO
EGYPT?
I CAN'T
GO
THERE!

THE HITTITE
EMPIRE

SINCE
ANCIENT TIMES,
MARITIME
TRADE HAS
THRIVED
IN THE
EASTERN
PART
OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN
SEA

KAR'S
TROOPS

RAMSES'S
TROOPS

BYBLOS

SIDON

TYRE

TERRITORY
OF EGYPT

DURING
THIS ERA,
UGARIT
WAS
UNDER
HITTITE
RULE.

WHILE
PORT CITIES
SUCH AS
BYBLOS,
SIDON AND
TYRE WERE
PART OF
EGYPT'S
SPHERE OF
INFLUENCE.

THEY'RE
ATTACKING
US FROM
THE SIDE!

HURRY
UP!
DON'T
BREAK
FOR-
MATION!

AH!

A
PALOMINO
HORSE ?

TA-
RUM
P

TA-
RUM
P!

TA-
RUM
P

A CLOUD
OF DUST
KICKED
UP BY
CHARIOTS!

TA-
RUM
P

WHO
ARE
THEY
?!

TA-
RUM
P





RETURN
YURI AT
ONCE!

KAIL
!!

RAMSESI

TA-
R-
U-
M-
P

TA-
R-
U-
M-
P

TA-
R-
U-
M-
P

TA-
R-
U-
M-
P





BY
VENTURING
THIS DEEP
INTO
ENEMY
TERRITORY
HIMSELF

KAIL
USKS
FAR TOO
MUCH



UAG

I'M
NOT
LETTING
YOU
GO

EVEN
IF YOU
BITE MY
FINGER
OFF

AUGH!

CHOP

LET
ME
GO!

RAM-
SES!



SAY
WHAT?!

I FEEL
SICK, VERY
SICK

LIGH



YOU'RE
CLEARLY
OUTNUM-
BERED!

HALT, AND
RELEASE
YURI!

GIVE
IT UP,
RAMSES!

EGYPTIAN
TERRITORY!
MY COUNTRY-
MEN WILL
SOON ARRIVE
TO HELP ME!

YESSIR!

STOP ME IF
YOU CAN,
MURGIL!
WE'RE NOW
IN.



BYBLOS
ISN'T
FAR, AND
WE HAVE
TROOPS
THERE!

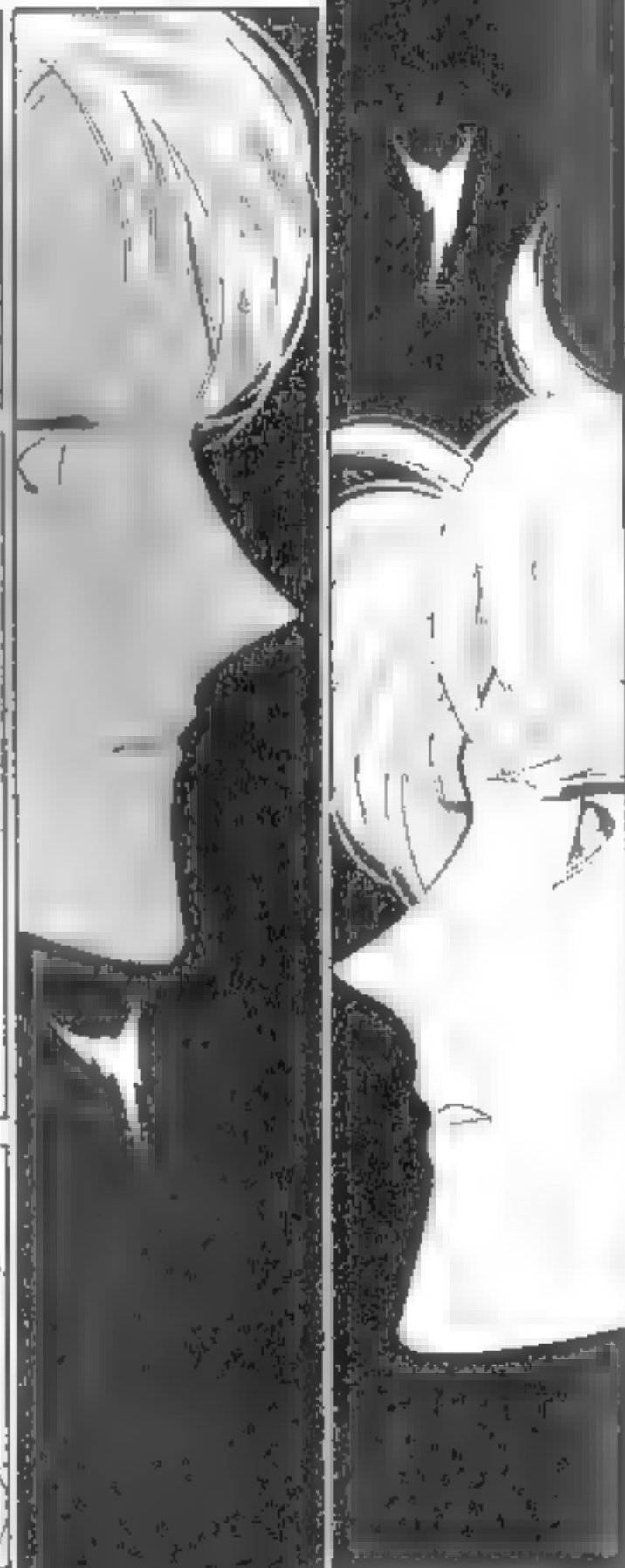
FASTER,
CHARIO-
TEER!



TA-
RUMP

TA-
RUMP

PUMP



RIGHT
NOW, THE
ONLY, SANE
COURSE OF
ACTION IS TO
RETREAT

RIGHT
NOW

I CAN
TAKE YURI WITH
ME AND GET
BACK TO THE
HITTITE
LINES
HOWEVER

RAMSES!

KAIL!

KAIL!

I'M
TOTALLY
OUTNUMBERED.

I'M GOING
TO LOSE THIS
ENCOUNTER.

STUPID!

STUPID IT,
RAIL!

Glop

Glop

Glop

PRINCESS
YURI.

PLEASE,
GET DOWN!

HUH?

ZING

WU

P

I HAVE
AN OPPOR-
TUNITY

TO
SETTLE
THINGS
WITH HIM!





SIR,
PRINCESS
YURI...
..WAS ONLY
TRYING
TO



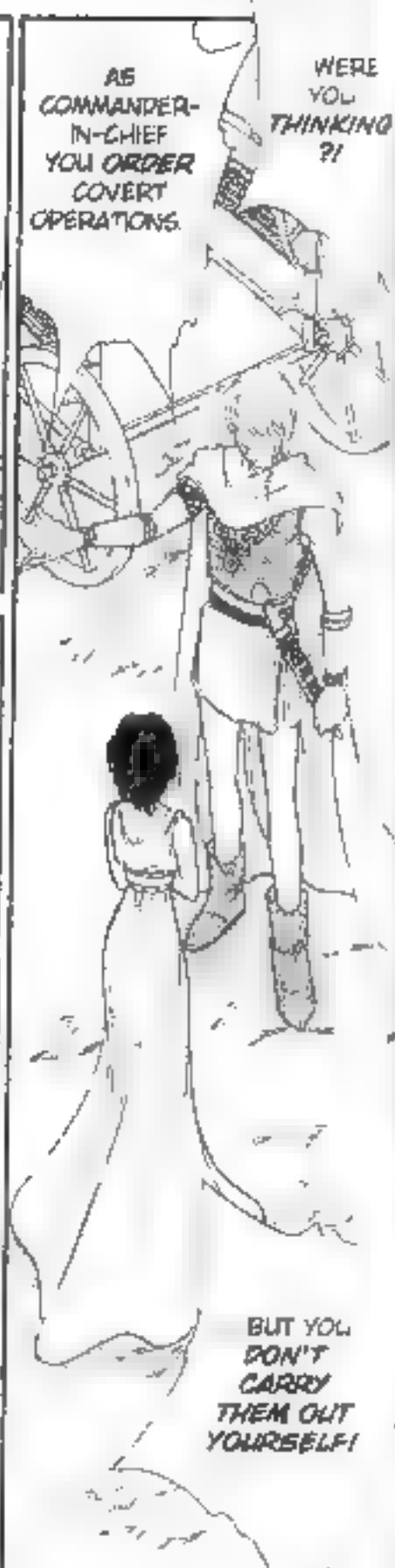
HIS
MAJESTY
IS RIGHT .

I'VE
BEHAVED
IRRESPONS-
BLY



WE'LL
DISCUSS
THAT BACK
AT THE
PALACE IN
UGART

BEST WE
DON'T LINGER
IN EGYPTIAN
TERRITORY



AS
COMMANDER-
IN-CHIEF
YOU ORDER
COVERT
OPERATIONS.

WERE
YOU
THINKING
?!

BUT YOU
DON'T
CARRY
THEM OUT
YOURSELF!



THE ONLY
REASON
I'VE
BESTED
RAMSES
BEFORE

IS
BECAUSE
OF THE
POWER I
WIELD AS
A HEAD
OF
STATE
ONLY THAT.



I CANNOT
CALL
MYSELF
THE
BETTER
WARRIOR



YURI!
WHAT



I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE.

I AM.
I'M
SORRY



KAIL
LM



WHAT
SHOULD I DO?
HOW CAN I TELL
HIM I WON'T BE
ABLE TO SERVE
IN THAT CAPACITY
ANY LONGER?
HOW CAN I TELL
HIM.

...I'M
PREGNANT?

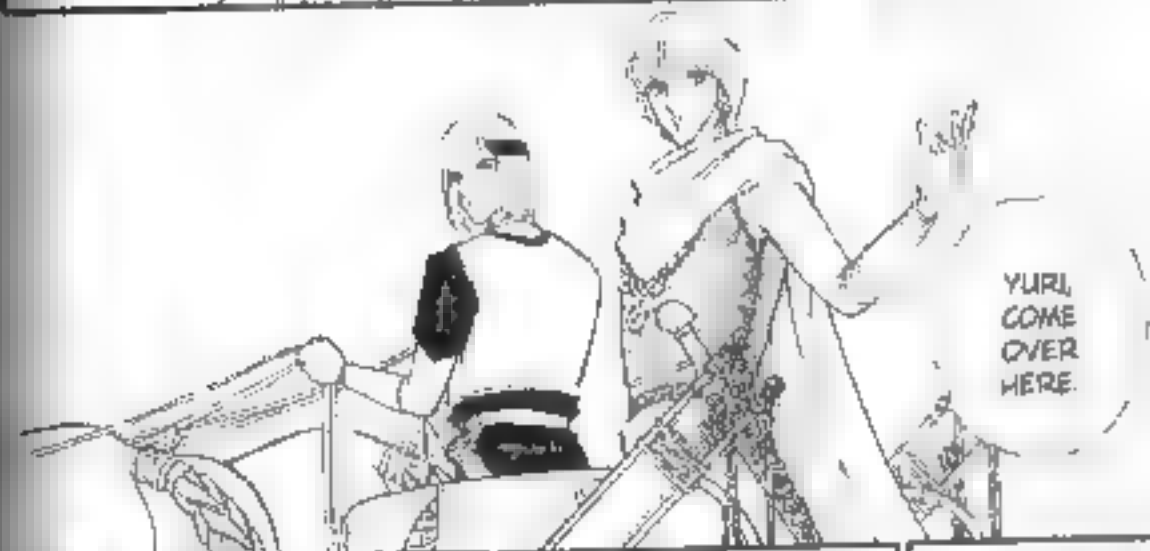


I KNOW
GUYS,
AND
THANK
YOU.

THAT'S
TRUE,
SO
PLEASE
DON'T

PRINCESS
YURI

HIS
MAJESTY IS
ONLY ANGRY
BECAUSE HE
WAS WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.



YURI,
COME
OVER
HERE.



I KNOW
KAIL
FEARS
FOR MY
SAFETY

BUT IF HE
WANTS TO
MARRY ME HE
HAS TO KEEP
ME IN
COMMAND OF
HIS ARMY

YURI

AND HE'S
ASSIGNED
TO HIM TO
REIN IN
APHALBA'S
PLATE
THAT'S
THE
WARRIOR

HE'S OUT
REVIEWING
THE
TROOPS

WE
SHOULD
EXCUSE
OUR-
SELVES.

HADI

REST
EASY,
ISHTAR

HIS
MAJESTY
IS NO
LONGER
ANGRY
WITH
YOU

HIS
MAJESTY
IS HERE

THE HITTITE ENCAMPMENT IN UGARIT

PRINCESS
YURI, OUR
SINCERE
APOLOGIES
TO YOU

AS I
ORDERED
IF YOU
HADN'T I'D
BE SAILING
FOR EGYPT
ABOUT NOW

WHERE
IS HIS
MAJESTY

WE FLED,
LEAVING
YOU
BEHIND

IN THAT
FIEND
RAMSES
CLUTCHES

JUST DON'T
KNOW HOW
TO TELL HIM
ABOUT THE
BABY

I'M NOT
WORRIED
ABOUT
THAT



AS A
TRAIT IN
MY
FUTURE
WIFE

YOU'RE A
FINE LEADER,
THOUGH
YOU'RE TOO
DRAWN TO
DIRECT
INVOLVEMENT
IN THE
ACTION.
HOWEVER

HOW
CAN I
FAULT
IT?

YWR!

I'M
SORRY I
RAISED MY
VOICE
EARLIER

WOULD
HAVE
BEEN
QUITE
ABLE TO
CARRY
IT OUT
THEM-
SELVES.

YOUR
COVERT
STRATEGY
WAS VERY
EFFECTIVE
BUT THE
SISTERS.

KAIL





TWITCH

N. NO!



YURI...?

PLEASE
DON'T!



NO, BUT
WHY?



KAIL

WILL YOU
BE ANGRY IF
I ASK FOR
TIME OFF FROM
MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF?



GULP



TH

OO

MP

...I
MISSED
YOU
TERRIBLY.



YURI...



HE,
OR
SHE...

...IS
RIGHT
HERE,
WITH US.



SOMEONE
NEEDS ME
MORE THAN
YOUR
SOLDIERS
DO!

I
MEAN.

I'VE GOT
SOMETHING
MORE
IMPORTANT



SOMEONE?
WHO?



COME
ON, YURI!
TELL ME!

RAMSES
?

WHAT?
NOT!

WHO
IS
IT?

THEN
WHO?
?



I KNOW THAT
BEING YOUR
COMMANDER-
IN-CHIEF IS THE
PRIZE I'M
SUPPOSED TO
PAY IN ORDER
TO MARRY
YOU

ALL
RIGHT
LISTEN
TO ME

BUT HAVING
YOUR BABY!
NAXA
THE SENATE
MARRIAGE
NONE OF THAT
MATTERS NEXT
TO THAT



YOU
MEAN
A BABY?

BLACK SEA

THE LATE
14TH
CENTURY
B.C.

THE HITTITE
EMPIRE

MEDITERRANEAN
SEA

THE
ORIENT WAS
DOMINATED
BY TWO
POWERFUL
EMPIRES.

EGYPTIAN
TERRITORY

RED
SEA





PLACED
A
SHOWDOWN
TO DETER-
MINE WHICH
NATION
WOULD
RULE THE
ORIENT

THE
FORCES OF
THESE
TWO
SUPER-
POWERS
FACED OFF
AT THE
ORONTES
RIVER.

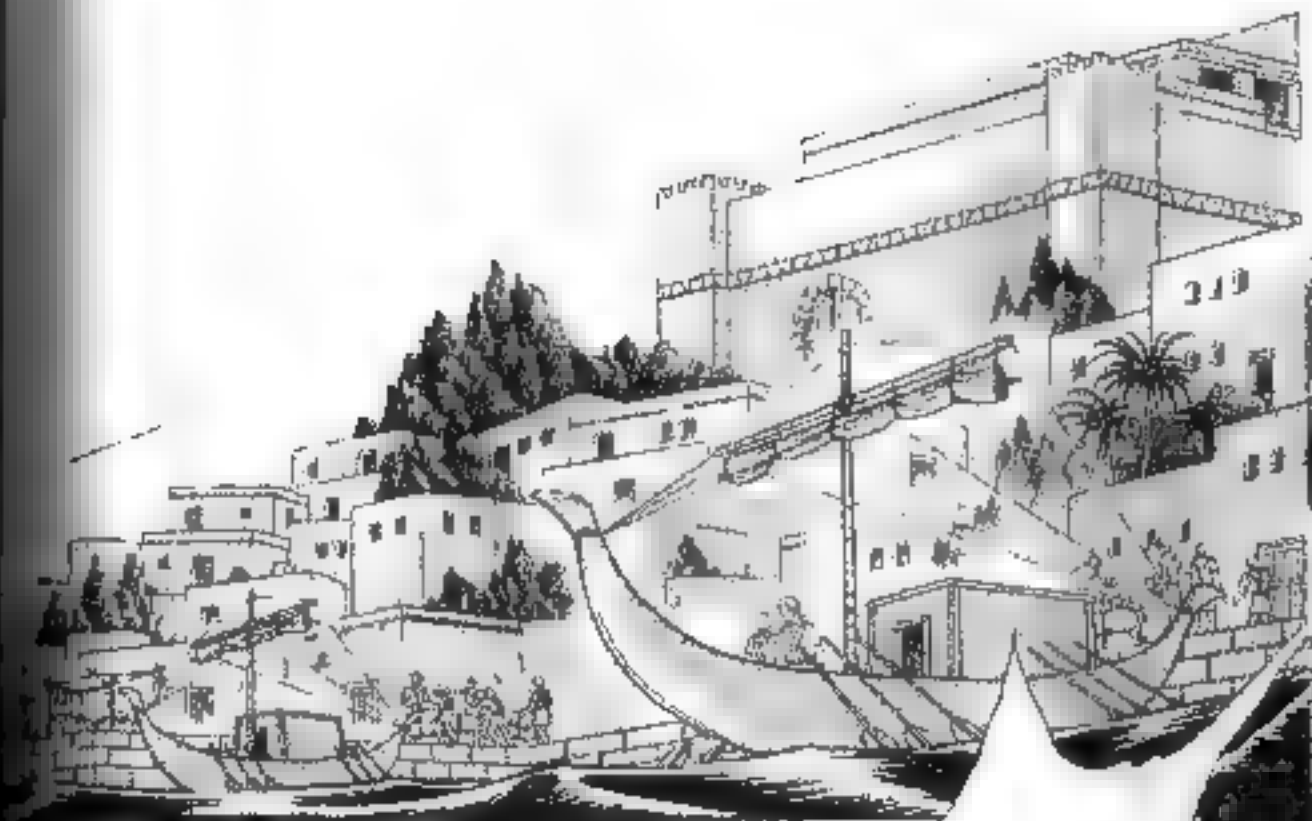
THE OLD
KINGDOM
OF EGYPT
ON THE
NILE.

CONTROLLED
THE
SOUTHERN
PART OF THE
REGION.

DOMINATED
THE NORTH.

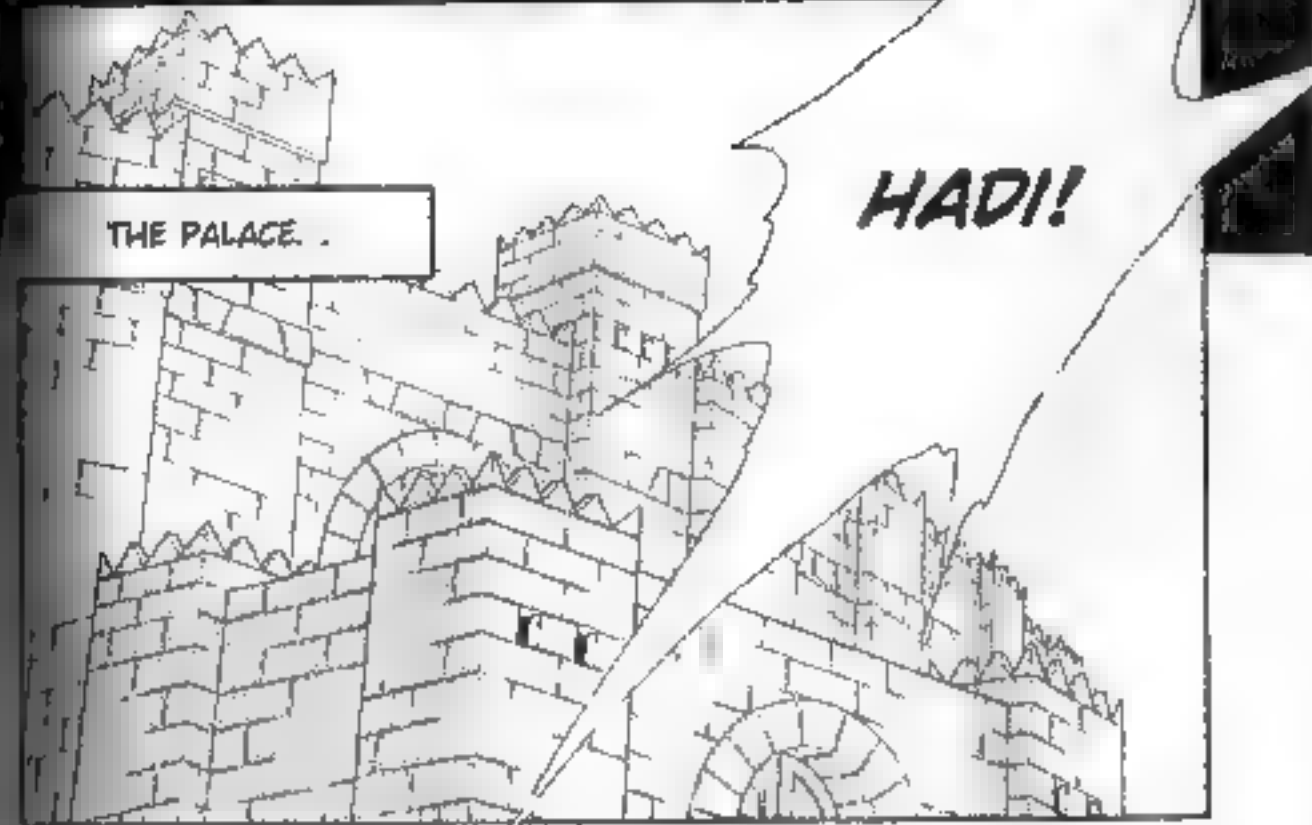
WHILE
THE HITTITE
EMPIRE, AN
EMERGING
POWER IN
ANATOLIA.

THE HITTE TERRITORY, LGARIT...



THE PALACE .

HADI!



YOUR
MAJESTY
?

HADI, HEAD OF CHAMBERMAIDS...

!!

HADI!

HADI!
WHERE
ARE
YOU?!

MINNAMI
HEAD OF STABLES AND

AIDE TO THE
WHITE KING.

I
WAS
IN
IDNA

JUST A MINUTE
AGO HE SEEMED
TO BE REVELING
IN HIS RELATION
WITH PRINCESS
YURI.

HAVEN'T HE
AND
PRINCESS
YURI RETIRED
TO HIS BED-
CHAMBER?

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

WHY'S HIS
MAJESTY
SHOUTING?

SHALA, YURI'S
OTHER CHAMBERMAID

RYUI, YURI'S CHAMBERMAID

Y. YESSIR!

SHALA!

DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT THIS
IS ABOUT?

KIKKURI!

RYUI!

THAT'S
HIS
MAJESTY'S
BELLOW!

WHAT'S
HAPPENED?

RUSAFI, ACTING
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

KASH, CHARIOT UNIT
LEADER

MITTANNAHWA
INFANTRY UNIT LEADER



ALSO KNOWN AS ISHTAR,
MURSILI'S CONCUBINE!

I KNOW
HE'S
LONGED
TO MARRY
ME, AND
JUST
WHEN
THAT
SEEMED
LIKELY..

KAIL..

YURI SUZUKI.

KAIL'S
ANGRY!

I GUESS
I CAN'T
BLAME
HIM.

THIS
HAPPENS!



HADI
WHERE
ARE
YOU?

THE HITTITE KING...

...KAIL MURSIL, II!

YOU
SUMMONED
ME, YOUR
MAJESTY?

ALL
OF
US?

I WANT
TO HAVE
THIS BABY!

KAIL

KNOW
THIS
MATCHES
HIS
ID

NADIA!

KAIL,
PLEASE!

PLEASE
LISTEN

...NADIA
WILL WIN
THE
BATTLE BY
DEFAULT!

BUT I



I MEAN,
YOU

YOU
WANT THIS
BABY?

ARE YOU
ARE YOU
ILL OR
SOMETHING?

PRINCESS
YURI?

YOU'RE
SAYING.

THAT
I CAN

KAIL?

YOU'RE
NOT MAD
AT ME?

OH!!

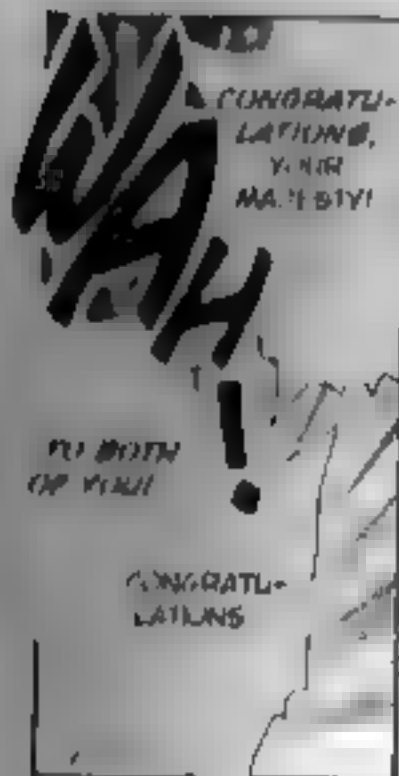


THEN
YOU'RE
HAPPY
ABOUT IT?

COME
HERE,
YUR!!

WHAT?
OF COURSE!
IT'S JUST

THIS NEWS
IS SO SUDDEN
I HARDLY
KNOW WHICH
WAY TO TURN!



EX7



LET'S
ISSUE A
PROCLAMA-
TION!

YES!
IT WILL BE
CAUSE FOR A
NATIONWIDE
CELEBRA-
TION!

AS HIS
MAJ-
ESTY'S
FIRST-
BORN.

THE CHILD
MAY WELL
BE THE HEIR
TO THE
THRONE!

HOLD
ON!



A
BABY

STUN-
NED

CON

CONGRATU-
LATIONS!



I AM
HAPPY .
VERY
HAPPY!

NOW
STOP
ASKING
STUPID
QUESTIONS.

WHY,
OH
WHY...

DID
I DOUBT
HIM?
THIS HAS
ME ALL
TURNED
AROUND,
TOO.

NAKIA THE HITITE
WOMAN IN WAIVER

I DON'T
KNOW
THE NAME OF
THE MAN
WHO
WAS
KILLED
BY
THE
HITITE
AND
VICTIMIST

YOU ALL
KNOW
QUITE
WELL
WHAT SHE
WAS DONE
TO YURI IN
THE PAST
IN PURSUIT
OF THIS
GOAL.

ABSO-
LUTELY,
SIR!

SO KEEP
QUIET
ABOUT
THIS, YOU
HEAR ME?

KAIL'S
RIGHT!
NAKIA WILL
SEE THIS
CHILD AS A
THREAT!

SHE HAS IN NO
WAY ABANDONED
HER AMBITION
OF PLACING HER
SON, JUDA, ON
THE HITITE
THRONE.

I WANT ITS
EXISTENCE
KEPT
STRICTLY
SECRET.

YOUR
MAJESTY?

UNTIL THE
BABY IS
BORN..

WHY, KAIL?

ONE WORD—
NAKIA.
IF SHE
FOUND OUT.

I WOULD
DESPAIR OF
YURI'S AND
THE CHILD'S
SAFETY

OH!
RIGHT!

IT LIKE 1-
TAKU TAKU
...



JUST
ABOUT!

PRINCESS
YURI!

IS THIS
EVERYTHING
YOU PLAN TO
TAKE WITH
YOU TO
KARKEMISH?

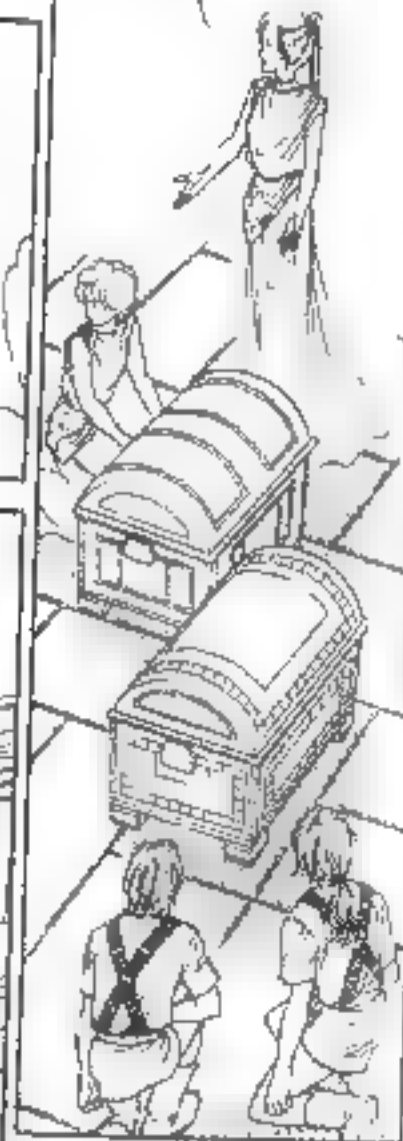


YURI!

I TOLD YOU
NOT TO LIFT
ANYTHING
HEAVY!



OH,
KAIL!



I HEAR SHE'LL
BE FOCUSING
ON LOGISTICS
WHILE HIS
MAJESTY
COMMANDS THE
FRONT LINE
TROOPS.

HEY

IS IT
TRUE
IGHTAR
WON'T BE
JOINING US
AT THE
FRONT?

THAT'S
WHAT I
HEARD.

I WONDER
WHY?
THE
ONSET OF
HOSTILITIES
IS
IMMINENT



I DUNNO .
MAYBE
IT'S A
STRATEGIC
PLOY ON
THE KING'S
PART

YOU
MAY BE
RIGHT

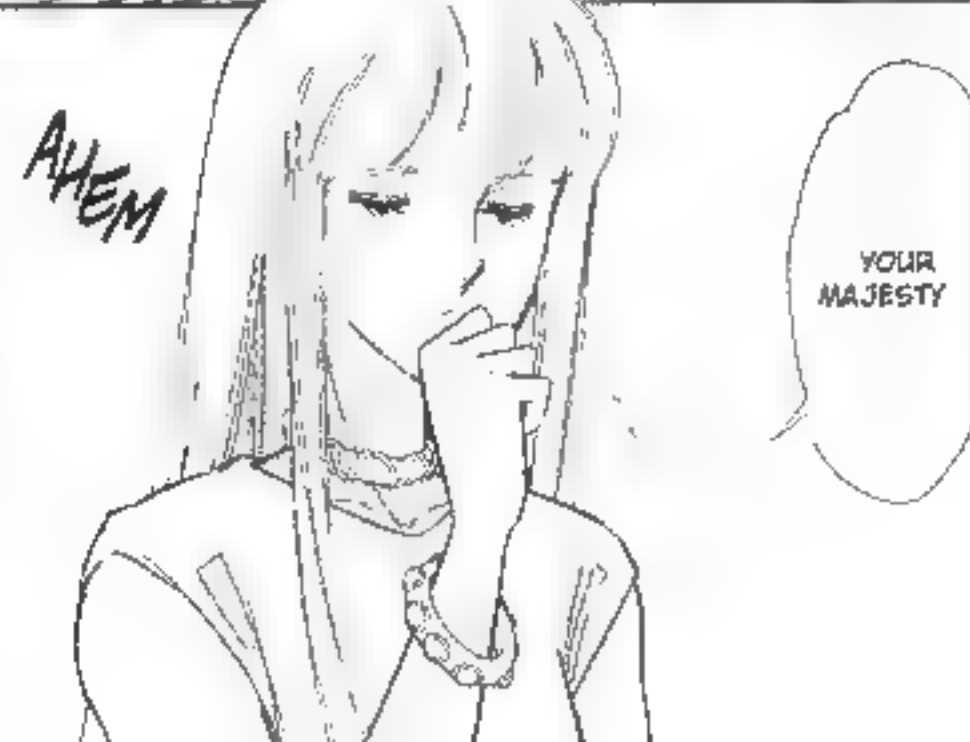
HE
DOESN'T
WANT TO
EXPOSE
HER TO
DANGER.

MY GUESS
IS THAT HIS
MAJESTY'S
SO IN LOVE
WITH
IGHTAR.



OH YEAH?
I BET TWO
ON THE
"STRATEGY"
THEORY!

ALL
RIGHT THEN!
I BET A
GLASS OF
BEER ON THE
"LOVE"
THEORY!





KAIL
AND
I
ARE
HAVING
A
BABY!

AT
LAST,
I FEEL
LIKE I
TRULY
BELONG!

I'M
STARTING
A FAMILY
HERE!



IN HATTUSA
WE'D HAVE TO
BE ON GUARD
AGAINST NAKIA'S
NUMEROUS EYES
AND EARS

YOU HAVE
A POINT,
KIKKJIRI.

IT'S
FORTUNATE
WE FOUND
OUT ABOUT
THIS HERE IN
UGARIT.



DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT IT
WE HAVE
MORE
IMPORTANT
CONCERNS.

I'LL
REJOIN
YOU ONCE
I DEAL
WITH THE
EGYPTIANS.



KAIL, I
AM HAPPY
FOR US.

BUT I STILL
REGRET THAT I
CAN'T FULFILL
THE PLEDGE I
MADE TO THE
SENATE AND
THE QUEEN
DOWAGER.
NAKIA WILL BE
WITHIN HER
RIGHTS TO SAY
I FAILED

TEMPLE OF BEL

ANYWAY
COME BACK
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE
WE STILL
HAVE MUCH
TO DO.

IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHETHER
IT'S A BOY
OR A GIRL

WE JUST
WANT THE
DELIVERY TO
GO WELL.

OF
COURSE

PLEASE
ASK YOUR
GOD TO
BLESS
HER.

BUT IS
IT WISE
AT THIS
TIME?

THAT IS
A NOBLE
INTEN-
TION.
SISTERS

NO ONE
AT THE
TEMPLE
KNOWS US,
SO THEY'LL
HAVE NO
IDEA.

ON
WHOSE
BEHALF IT
IS THAT
WE'RE
PRAYING.

PERHAPS
YOU'RE
RIGHT

BUT
THE
TEMPLE
OF BEL
WILL
HAVE TO
DO

WE
WOULD
VISIT THE
GODDESS
OF ALINNA
IN
ANATOLIA
IF WE
COULD.

WE'RE
GOING
TO THE
TEMPLE
OF BEL
TO PRAY
FOR A SAFE
DELIVERY
FOR
PRINCESS
YURI.

RYUI?
SHALA?

WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

OH,
BIG SIS!



WHAT
CHANCE
ARE THERE
OF FINDING
AND
RECOVERING

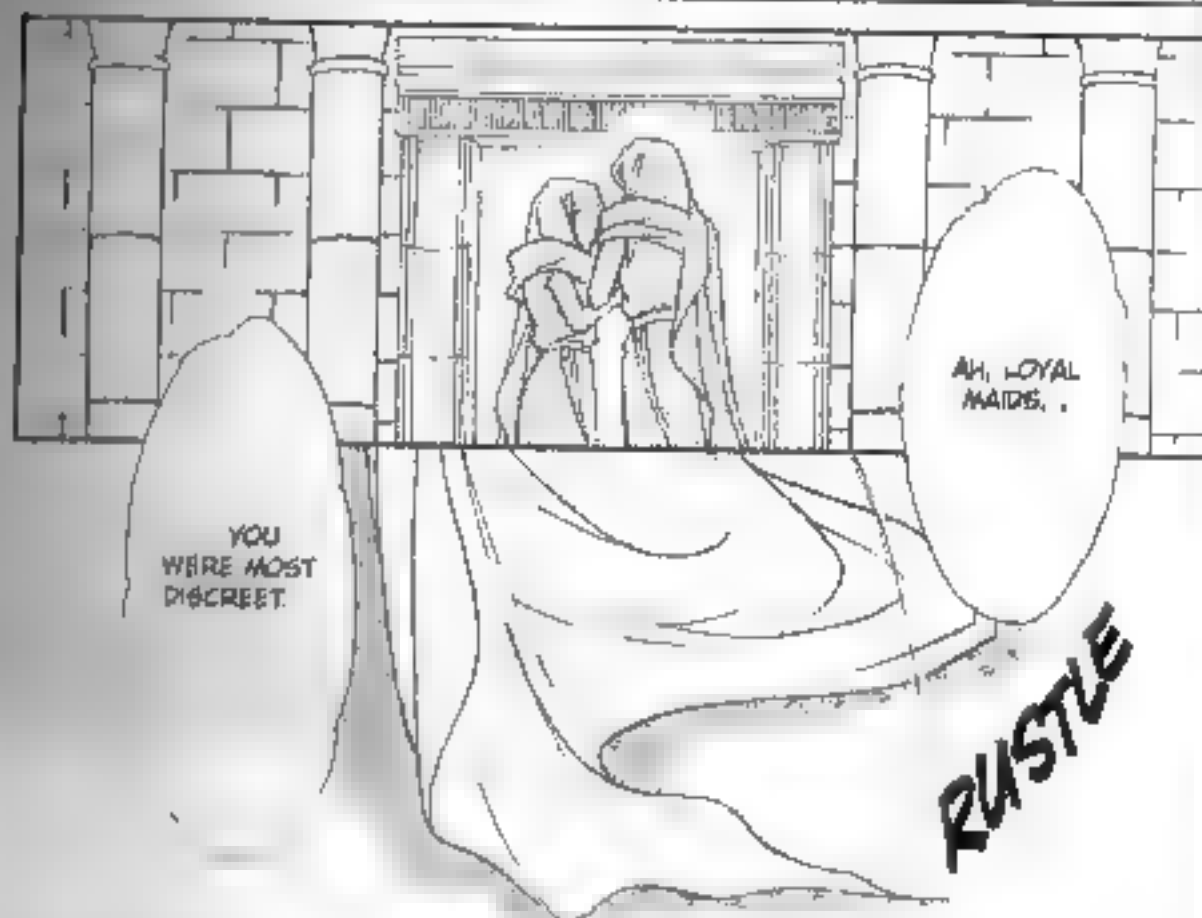
WE'RE
SORRY
WE'RE
UNABLE TO
REVEAL THE
NAME OF THE
MOTHER



ONE MORE
LET'S GO
BACK AND
TALK YOUR
FRIEND?

I'M
GLAD
WE
CAME

AREN'T
YOU
SHALAH?



YOU
WERE MOST
DISCREET.

AH, LOYAL
MAIDS.

RUSTLE



WE'VE
BROUGHT
OFFER-
INGS. THEY
AREN'T
MUCH

BUT
THEY'RE
ALL WE
COULD
SCARE
UP.

YOUR
OFFERINGS
ARE MORE
THAN
ADEQUATE,
LADIES.



MAY BE
NERVOUS
ABOUT
HAVING HER
CHILD IN A
FOREIGN
LAND. BUT
TELL HER TO
REST EASY

I
GATHER
YOU'RE
NOT
FROM
THIS
AREA,
SO YOUR
FRIEND.

THANK YOU,
PRIEST
THANK YOU
VERY MUCH!



I ASSURE
YOU THAT THE
GOD OF THIS
TEMPLE WILL
WATCH OVER
THE WOMAN AS
SHE GIVES
BIRTH.

PRINCE LIRHI SHALMA,
AIDE TO
QUEEN DOWAGER NAKIA

IS THAT
SAME
MISTRESS,
YURI
ISHTAR?

AND THE
FATHER MUST
BE MURSI. IT
IS AN
INTERESTING
DEVELOPMENT

SOMETHING WILL
NEED TO BE
DONE ABOUT IT
OF THAT I AM
QUITE CERTAIN

IF YOU'VE
COME HERE
TO PRAY
FOR A
SAFE
DELIVERY

I'VE NO
DOUBT THE
WOMAN WHO
WILL BE
GIVING
BIRTH.

YOU ARE
QUITE
DEVOTED TO
HER, AS A
MATTER OF
FACT

BUT I'M
AWARE OF
THE IDENTITY
OF YOUR
MISTRESS.

R
U
S
T
L
E





HE WILL
BURN FOR
THIS PLAN
EVERYTHING.

HIS
MAJESTY
HASN'T
SAID
ANYTHING.

TO
PRINCESS
YURI
CONCERNING
THE MILITARY
SITUATION.

PRINCESS
YURI WON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHAT THE
WEATHER IS
LIKE, IF THAT
IS WHAT HIS
MAJESTY
WISHES.

AS THOUGH
WRAPPING
HER IN A SILK
COCOON.

DOES HE
BELIEVE IT'S
POSSIBLE FOR
HIM TO KEEP
HER IN THE
DARK ABOUT
SUCH
MATTERS?

SINCE COMING
TO THIS
WORLD, I
DON'T THINK
I'VE EVER
HAD SUCH
PEACE OF
MIND...

NAKIA'S
THREATS AND
THE COMING
CONFLICT
WITH EGYPT
BOTH FEEL
SO UNREAL
TO ME NOW

HAD.

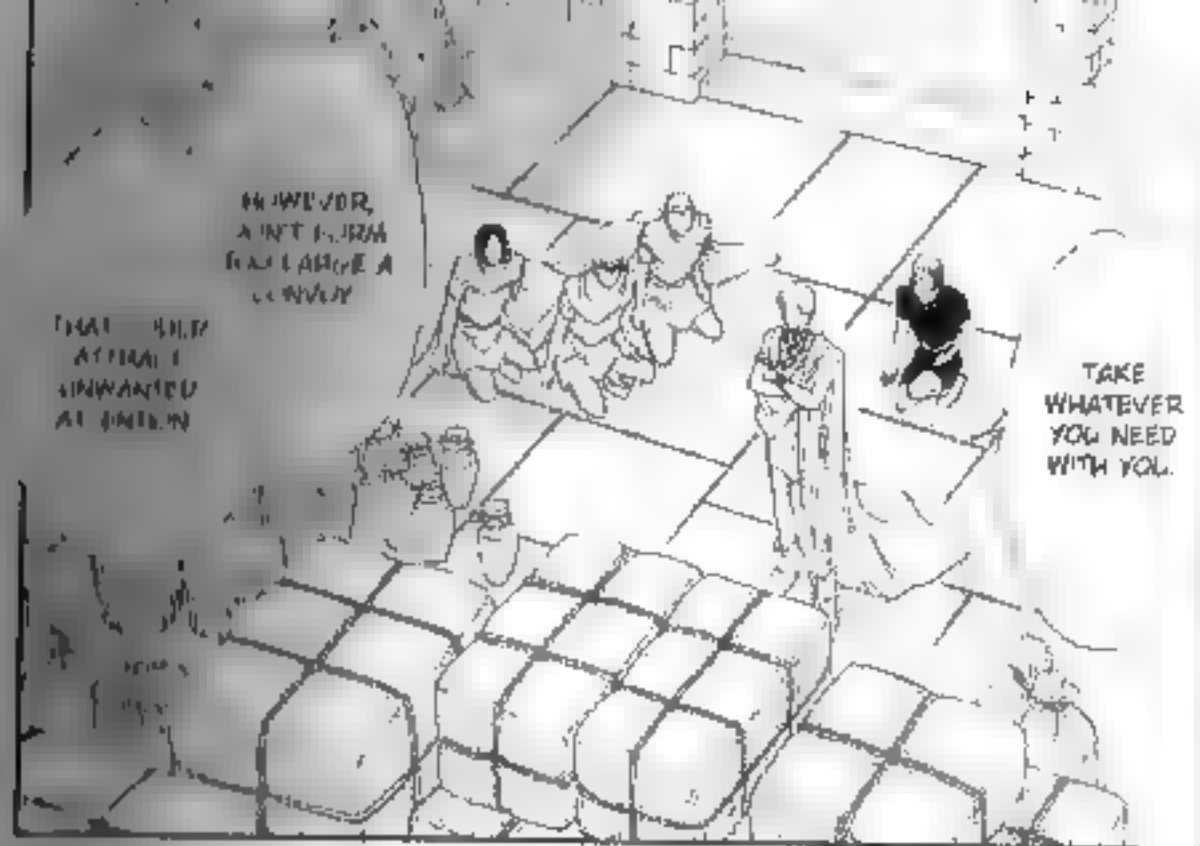
HAS THE
FIGHTING
BEGUN?

WHAT'S
THE
LATEST
ON
EGYPT?

PLEASE
DON'T
TROUBLE
YOURSELF
ABOUT THAT,
PRINCESS
YURI.

... AS
I DO
NOW

KAKU



HOWEVER,
AINT FURIA
WALLABE A
CONVAY

THAT WIL
ATTAK I
UNWANTED
AT ENEN

TAKE
WHATEVER
YOU NEED
WITH YOU.



YOUR
MAJESTY

NOW
AS TO
YURI'S
PERSONAL
GUARD

IT SHOULD
BE ONE OF YOU,
BUT WITH THE
EGYPTIAN
SITUATION THAT'S
NOT AN OPTION



PARDON
ME
YOUR
MAJESTY!

I'VE
SELECTED
THE MOST
SKILLED OF
MY WARRIORS
TO GUARD
PRINCESS
YURI!

SIR!



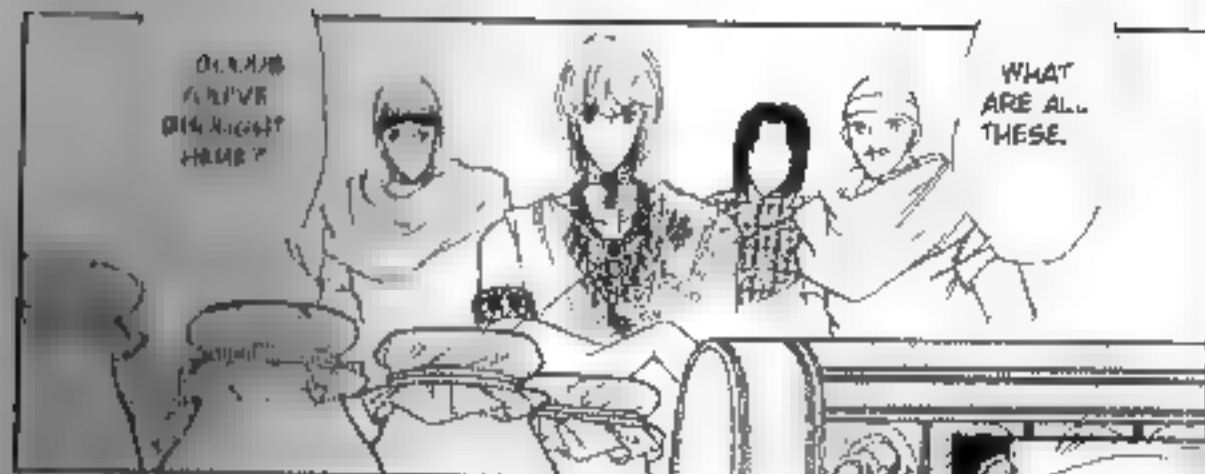
I BELIEVE
THAT'S
WHAT HIS
MAJESTY

HAS
ALWAYS
WANTED
TO DO
FOR HER.

NOW HE
MEANS
TO DO IT

I'M SO
HAPPY
THAT

IT
ALMOST
FRIGHTENS
ME.



OUR
FATHER
DIDN'T
HATE?

WHAT
ARE ALL
THESE.



NOW.

DID YOU
FIND OUT
ABOUT
THIS?

WE
CONGRATULATE
YOU, YOUR
MAJESTY, ON
THIS HAPPY
EVENT AND
WISH GOOD
HEALTH TO
ISHTARI!

IN CELE-
BRATION
OF THE
COMING
BIRTH OF
YOUR
FIRST
CHILD!

THEY'RE
OUR
HUMBLE
GIFTS TO
YOU



IT WILL
BE THE
TALK OF
THE ENTIRE
EMPIRE!

WHY, SIR,
ALL OF
UGARIT'S
BUZZING
WITH THE
NEWS!
I DARE SAY



...IS HERE,
ALONG WITH
THE MAYOR
OF UGARIT
AND THE
CITY'S HEAD
PRIEST
THEY WISH TO
PAY THEIR
RESPECTS.

PRINCE
NIGNEPA,
YOUR
APPOINTED
REGENT IN
UGARIT

WE HAVE
VISITORS,
SIR.

WHAT
IS IT?



MAY WE
SINCERELY
EXTEND OUR

WHY
INDEED?
THEY
WEREN'T
SUMMONED.

TO YOUR
MAJESTY
KING
MURSH
IT?

HEART-
FELT
CONGRATU-
LATIONS.

THEY'RE
HERE?
WHY?

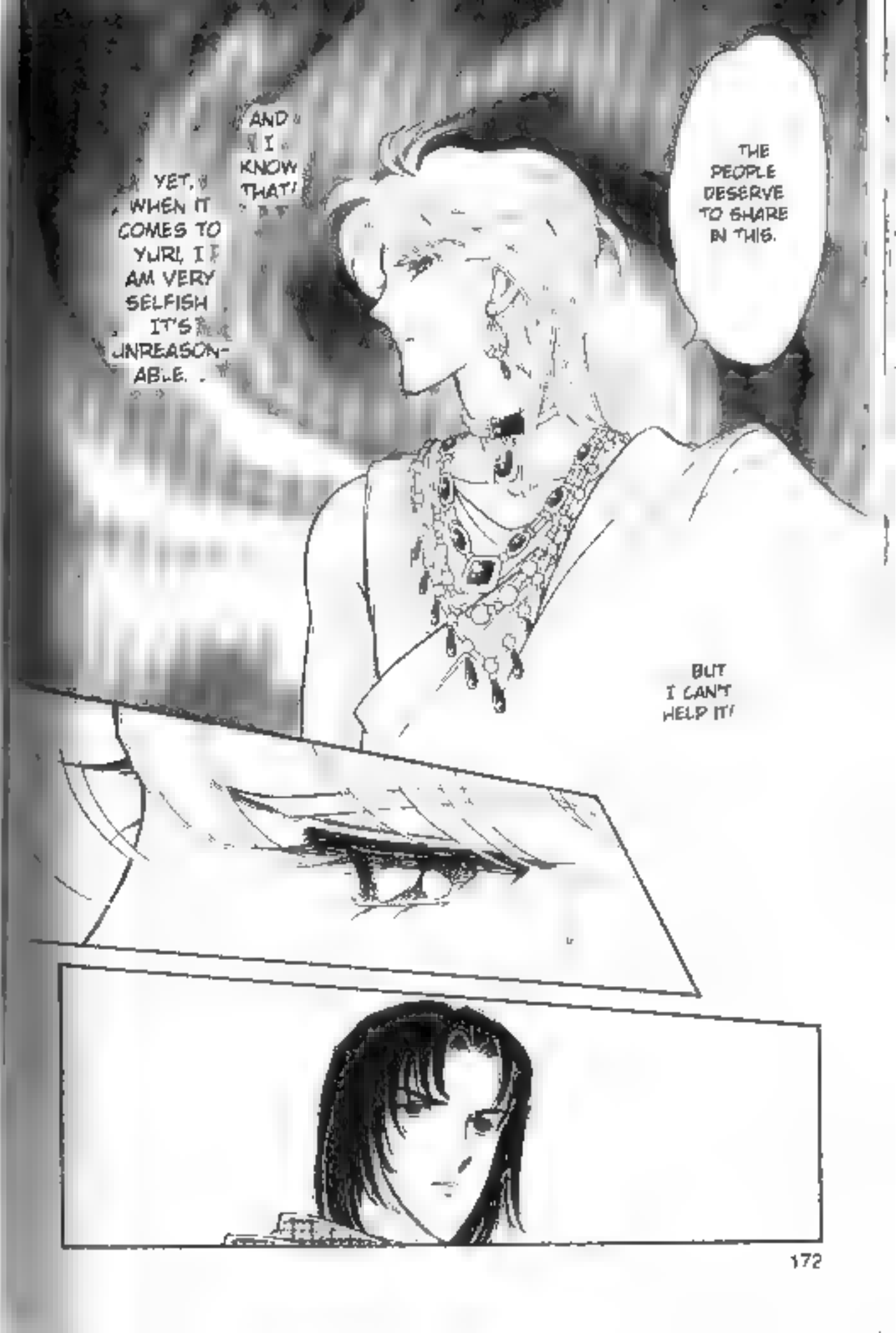




YURI AND I
WILL HOLD A
RECEPTION
BEFORE SHE
LEAVES FOR
KARKEMISH
TOMORROW
SEE TO IT

YES,
SIR!

ALL
RIGHT



AND
I
KNOW
THAT!

THE
PEOPLE
DESERVE
TO SHARE
IN THIS.

YET,
WHEN IT
COMES TO
YURI, I
AM VERY
SELFISH
IT'S
UNREASON-
ABLE.

BUT
I CAN'T
HELP IT!



CONGRATU-
LATIONS
TO YOU
BOTH!



LOOK!
THERE'S
ISHTARI!

CONGRATU-
LATIONS,
ISHTARI!

YOUR
MAJESTY
THE PALACE'S
COURTYARD
AND GATE
AREA ARE
FILLED WITH
CITIZENS

NOW OFF
YOU GO.

OKAY

**ROAR
RAH
ROAR**

YOUR
MAJESTY!
WELL WISHERS
ARE ARRIVING
FROM NEIGH-
BORING
TOWNS AND

THE
WISHERS ARE
FILLED
WITH
PEOPLE!

YOUR
MAJESTY!
WELL WISHERS
ARE ARRIVING
FROM NEIGH-
BORING
TOWNS AND

ROAR



HOW
DID I
DESERVE
ALL
THIS?

IT'S
LIKE I'M
DREAM-
ING

EVERYONE'S
SO HAPPY
KAIL!
IT'S
WONDER-
FUL!



KAIL?



SQUINTING



KARKEMISH
IS A LONG
WAY FROM
HATTUSA,
AND NAKA

YOU
WORRY
TOO
MUCH,
KAIL

BE
CAREFUL
ON THE
JOURNEY
YURI.



THEY'RE
GIFTING
AWFULLY
DEAD!

OH
BROTHER!

LET
US
SEE
YOUR
FACE!

ISHTAR!
PLEASE!

HEY!

STOP THAT!
STOP
PUSHING!

LOOK!
ISHTAR
IS...

AAAGH

AAAGH
!



YOU
HEARD!
MOVE!

MOVE!
DO NOT
IMPEDE
US!

LET US
THROUGH!



WE'RE
HERE
TO...

...CON-
GRATULATE
ISHTAR!

YOU
MOVE,
SOLDIER!



WE WANT
ISHTAR!
LET US
SEE HER!

WE WANT
TO SEE
ISHTAR!

YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT!

MOVE!

NO ONE
IS ALLOWED
NEAR
ISHTAR'S
PALANQUIN!



ROCKS
?!

WHERE IS
SHE?
WHERE'S
ISHTAR?



ISHTAR!
ARE YOU
ALL
RIGHT?



ISHTAR
!





I SUP-
POSE
SO...

YOU'VE
MADE THE
RIGHT
DECISION
TO SEND
ME BY
SEA.

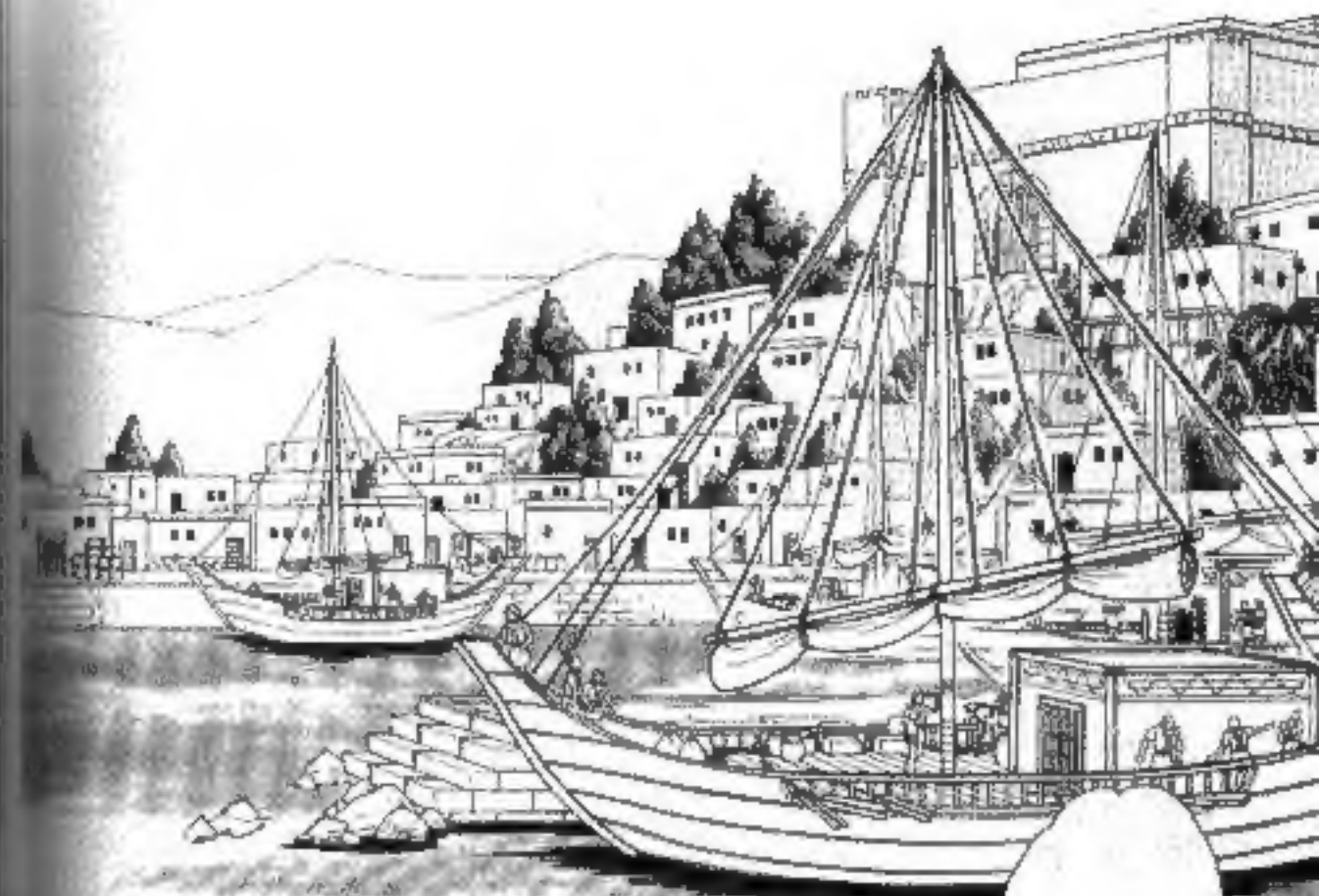
KAIL,
ARE YOU
STILL
WORRIED?

...AND
THIS TIME
YOU
REALLY
ARE
LEAVING.

YOU
MUST GO
BEFORE
THE
CONFUSION
OVER THE
DECOY
CONVOY
ABATES.

CAST OFF
MOORINGS!

TAKE
CARE OF
YOURSELF,
KAIL!



HIS
MAJESTY
MADE THE
RIGHT CALL.

AGREED.

THOUGH I
HAVE TO
WONDER HOW
THE CROWD
GOT SO
AGITATED.
IT'S AS IF
THEY WERE
GOADED.

PRINCESS
YURI
WOULDN'T
HAVE MADE
IT SAFELY
OUT OF THE
CITY BY
LAND.



SPRING

RLISAF A
?!

THUD



B
W
O
N
G

OFF...

...TO
BEA!

B
W
O
N
G

RLISAF A
?!

F
L
A
P

?!

WHY?

WHY
AM I
STILL
WORRIED
ABOUT
HER?

I KNOW
SHE'LL BE
SAFE THERE,
BUT I STILL
FEEL UNEASY.
ARE MY FEARS
GROUNDLESS?

LIGARIT WILL
SOON BECOME A
WAR ZONE, SO
SENDING HER TO
KARKEMISH IS
THE RIGHT
DECISION.



AND,
SAD TO
SAY,
YOU
WILL
LOSE
HER...

...DID YOU
THINK I
WOULDN'T
GUESS ISHTAR
WOULD BE
TAKING THE
SEA ROUTE TO
KARKEMISH...

YOUR
MAJESTY,
MURSILI
II...

...ONCE I
LEARNED
THAT SHE
WASN'T
TRAVELING
BY LAND?
IF SO, YOU
WERE
WRONG.



...BUT I
SIMPLY **MUST**
ACCOMPANY
PRINCESS YURI
TO KARKEMISH!

**YOUR
MAJESTY!**

I KNOW YOU
WILL PUNISH
ME LATER FOR
**DISOBEDI-
ENCE...**



LOOKS
LIKE WE
JUST GOT
THE JOB.

WASN'T
HE
ORDERED
TO LEAD
THE ARMY?



I'LL BE
WAITING
FOR YOU IN
KARKEMISH!

KAILI

MAY YOU
ACHIEVE A
**GREAT
VICTORY**
OVER EGYPT!